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SOME DIMENSIONS OF THE SOCIAL INTEGRATION OF CANADIAN YOUTH

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for the

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(The French text is the original version)

Texte français disponible

FOREWORD

There has been a continuing interest by the Secretary of State in youth. This interest has recently been heightened by the International Year of Youth in 1985 and by the situation of young people in Canada today, a situation which, although it presents many problems, also offers new opportunities. The importance attached to youth was emphasized by the appointment of a Minister of State for Youth.

To achieve a better understanding of Canada's young people, a program of research on youth has been developed by the Social Trends Analysis Directorate. Within the framework of this program, two exploratory documents have been produced and they particularly bring to the fore the embryonic state of research on youth. In order to alleviate this gap, seven research reports focussing on specific aspects of young peoples's lives were undertaken. These reports are aimed at gathering, organizing and analysing the available and most relevant information on the topic.

The present report was prepared by Carmen Frenette, analyst. The author describes some aspects which influence the social integration of young people. First, the report deals with the process of integration in terms of participation to certain activities linked to leisure. Then, young people's level of adherence and respect for Canadian institutions are examined and whenever the data allows, the author makes comparisons between young people and their elders in order to better identify the youth situation.

Needless to say, the author is solely responsible for this study and it should not be taken as reflecting the views of the Department of the Secretary of State.

Jean-Marie Romeder
Director
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SUMMARY

This study proposes to describe certain aspects of the social integration of young people aged 15-24, based on nation-wide surveys and polls. Several themes will be addressed: participation in leisure-time activities, consumption of socio-cultural services and events, associational and political participation, adherence to values, and respect for Canadian Institutions.

Leisure activities play an important role in the lives of young people. The various surveys consulted indicate that young people value free time more than adults and envision more serenely a decrease in the importance of work in society. To summarize the participation of young people in leisure-time activities, they spend approximately 70 hours per week on leisure. Nearly half of this time is devoted to media activities, nearly one quarter to social activities, less than 20% to participatory activities, and approximately 10% to relaxing, reflecting, resting and planning. The lowest participation rates are in participatory activities, ranging between 32% and 82% depending on the activity, while rates in other types of activities range between 84% and 98%.

It seems that participation (rates and number of hours) declines with age, especially in participatory and social activities, and there is little difference due to sex or milieu. However, young Quebecers have lower participation levels in a variety of activities: participatory activities, social activities, relaxing and planning. Lower levels are also observed in the analysis by linguistic characteristics: Francophones have lower participation levels in many leisure-time activities, and Allophones in certain activities.

Interest in socio-cultural activities among young people 15-24 years of age varies considerably depending on the activity. Less than 25% of them visited an art gallery or museum or attended a classical music performance during the reference year. At the other end of the scale, four out of five youths saw a movie in a commercial theatre. More than two thirds of young people aged 15-24 went to a bookstore or a sports event, and approximately one youth in two went to a public library or attended a non-classical music performance. The other activities recorded participation rates ranging between 31% (theatrical productions) and 41% (visit to zoo, circus, etc.).

Participation generally declines with age, except in some cases where youths aged 20-24 showed more interest than those aged 15-19 in activities such as visits to public libraries, exhibitions, fairs, and festivals. Girls tend to participate more than boys, except for attendance at sports events. By region, participation is lower among Maritime youths in all activities, and among Quebec youths in certain activities (visits to the four establishments, attendance at non-classical music concerts). Young Ontarians are particularly interested in concerts, both classical and non-classical, whereas Western Youths make more visits to zoos and fairs. Participation is generally lower in rural areas. Participation among students is clearly above the national average, whereas participation among the unemployed and persons not in the labour force tends to be lower. Participation in many of these activities is higher for single persons than for young people who have ever been married.

Finally, there is a direct relationship between education and participation (except for attendance at sport events).

With respect to travel, the Crop survey (1983) indicates that it is as popular among young people aged 18-24 as among their elders. The young tend to favour Canadian destinations more than the older group.

Notwithstanding the belief (founded or not) that people are less willing to help each other than they were ten years ago, young people have a very positive attitude toward volunteer work. More than 60% of the youths aged 18 to 25 believe in the need for charities, want them to be free from government control and think that volunteer workers are unselfish and dedicated people (Gallup, 1982). Volunteer work is an important goal for more than 60% of young people aged 15-24, and a majority of unemployed youths would be willing to do volunteer work to improve their chances of getting a job (Goldfarb, 1983). On the other hand, less than 20% of young people aged 18 to 25 would be willing to use the spare time resulting from a shorter work week to do volunteer work (Gallup, 1982).

The Gallup poll (1982) reveals that 55% of young people aged 18-24 do not belong to any of the organizations mentioned in the questionnaire (e.g. religious or parochial organizations, cultural or artistic groups, various interest groups). This figure drops to 39% among adults. Also, young people belong to fewer organizations than adults and prefer theatre or arts groups. The results of the Goldfarb survey (1983) suggest variations in membership according to sex (women belong to more associations than men), region (membership is more popular and diverse among Prairie youths and less prevalent among Quebec youths), and labour force status (55% of students do not belong to any organization, compared to 77% of persons not in the labour force).

With respect to voluntary participation, rates are lower among young people 18-24 years of age than among the adult population: 79% of the youths indicated that they do not do any volunteer work, compared to 65% of adults (Gallup, 1982). The Goldfarb survey (1983) also indicates variations in voluntary participation by sex and region.

In general, voluntary participation in various types of associations, except recreational associations, is greater among the adult population than the youth population, and also greater among young women than young men. In the organizations where they do volunteer work, young people tend to occupy working-level positions, leaving executive positions to the older group.

Participation in politics is characterized by three stages: youth awareness of political realities, critical reflection on political issues, and actual involvement. While a minority of young people are interested in politics (42%), political issues such as international relations and disarmament capture the interest of more than 55% of 18-24 year-olds (Crop, 1983). Their most popular sources of information, in order of preference, are television (more than 45%), newspapers (approximately 25%), and radio (20%) (Crop, 1983). Moreover, the survey of leisure-time activities (1978) reveals that newspaper reading increases with age, but less than 45% of young people read the news section.

The vast majority of 15-24 year-olds (more than 90%) adhere to the values considered important in Canadian society such as personal achievement, respect for law and order, and maintaining high ethical conduct (Goldfarb, 1983). More than 90% of them attach importance to goals or aspirations such as being successful at what they do, having a job, having a family life, having friends, and having leisure time. Like the adult population, approximately one third would like to see greater public participation in government decisions, most are middle-of-the-road and favour a gradual reform of society. They also strongly reject radical or unlawful conduct (political assassination: 91%; fighting with police: 90%; illegal strikes: 76%; and terrorism: 67%).

Moreover, young people aged 18 to 24 feel neither deprived of choice or control over what happens to them, nor excluded from political power. Although they feel lonely more often than adults, they do not think about the meaning and purpose of life more than their elders.

Young people have definite opinions about certain contemporary issues. More than 95% of 15-24 year-olds are mostly concerned by economic problems (unemployment, inflation). Social problems, like equality for women and Native rights, are of concern to more than 80% of them. The 18-24 year-olds are also concerned about the threat of nuclear war: they support the peace movement and are against cruise missile tests more than the older population.

As regards confidence in or respect for Canadian institutions, the most esteemed are those which are responsible for law enforcement and for conveying social values and standards: the police, the educational system, the churches, and the legal system. At the other extreme, governments and unions earn the least respect from young people.

When presented with a geographic choice, 18-24 years-olds say that they identify first with their locality or town, next with their province, and last with Canada. Two thirds of 15-24 year-olds say that they think of themselves first as Canadians rather than members of their province, while half of the young people personally feel closer to their provincial government than the federal government.

With respect to actual participation in politics, it would seem that it remains at the project stage for the vast majority of young people. Close to half of them do not discuss politics at all and, although they attach great importance to disarmament, only 6% of 18-24 year-olds have actually expressed an opinion on this issue.

The results presented in this study suggest that youth participation levels are higher than those observed in the adult population for leisure-time activities in general and for socio-cultural services and events. However, their participation levels in organizations and politics are lower. Moreover, the indicators considered do not point to the alienation of young people in Canadian society.

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INTRODUCTION

Canada is going through major structural changes in the labour market at a time when jobs are scarce and many of the traditional social roles and values are being challenged without any consensus in view. The fragility and shifts observed in the economic and cultural spheres make the integration of youth in society even more difficult. An entire generation of young people is struggling to find a fulfilling place in the world built by their elders.

This particularly difficult situation for the youth of today leaves few people indifferent. In September 1983, 70% of respondents to the Crop survey stated that they were very (30%) or somewhat (40%) worried about the situation of young people. The main problems identified by the respondents were related to economics (unemployment: 50%; economic problems: 72%). Drug and alcohol consumption concerned 18% of the respondents. A small percentage mentioned moral problems (lack of discipline: 7%; of ideals: 5%; or of moral values: 3%) or relational problems (lack of family support: 2%; of school support: 3%; and bad influence of friends: 1%). Nine percent of the respondents believed that social integration and adaptation to social change are the main stumbling blocks for young people.

While work remains the preferred channel of social integration (contributing to the economic growth of the community and increasing the benefits derived from wealth generated by growth), it is not the only channel. In this respect, other aspects of youth merit consideration. Adherence to social values, respect for institutions (political, cultural and other), involvement in the democratic process, associational participation and even leisure-time activities, all are indicators of one's belonging to society. This document will explore these various aspects of social integration.

1. DEFINITIONS AND METHODOLOGY

This chapter attempts to provide the reader with a guide to the use of this document. It first provides definitions of the principal concepts used and a discussion of the various functions of leisure-time activities among young people. The second part outlines the methodology employed by specifying the goals of the study as well as the sources of information consulted and their limitations.

1.1 Definitions

The three major concepts we will define are found in the title of this document: "Some aspects of the Social Integration of Canadian Youth". We will discuss each of these concepts, but in the reverse order of their appearance in the title.

Youth

Youth is a concept subject to various interpretations. Depending on the perspective (biological, psychological, sociological, judicial or demographic) or culture, youth can cover different lengths of time and be characterized by different stages of maturation.

There are some who see youth as a period of transition between childhood and adulthood. In some cultures, this transition is achieved through rites and rituals designed to initiate the youths into adult life. Youth is therefore not considered as a "period of time" in these societies. In our industrial society, however, youth is defined in temporal terms of increasingly long duration. Puberty, which marks the end of childhood, is taking place earlier than it used to; it is appearing around the ages of 12 and 13 among girls, and around 14 and 15 among boys, i.e. three years earlier than in the middle of the last century (Saucier, 1981). Also, full and complete access to adulthood is being continually postponed by the need to further one's education and, more recently, the difficulty of obtaining viable employment. Youth, as a period of life, is thus being extended at both ends.

There are others who view youth more as a state of mind, a process of psychological maturation during which young people seek answers to certain fundamental questions whose answers define adulthood - questions of who they are, of vocation, of social role and of their relationship to the existing society (Ornstein, 1981). In this perspective, youth can end before the end of one's formal education, or can extend beyond one's entry into the labour market, without any reference to age.

These definitions, although helpful for understanding the phenomenon, cannot be used in the context of our study. As we intend to use the results of surveys already conducted, our definition must be compatible with their data. The demographic criterion of age was therefore used as the basis for our definition. Youth is that portion of the population which falls between the ages of 15 and 24 inclusively. This definition has the advantage of having been used by the United Nations for the International Youth Year.

It should be noted, however, that this definition does not reflect the many differences that exist between individuals in this age group, such as

differences in needs, interests, aspirations, lifestyles, etc. Thus, some youths at age 15 are still attending school full time, are unemployed and living at home, while others at age 20 have stable employment, are married and even have children, and still others at age 24 are educated, unemployed, and living off meager government support. Education, labour force status, income, marital status, are all factors that divide 15-24 year-olds into subgroups with few common characteristics. The age criterion blends all these differences into a single group with only an appearance of homogeneity. Admittedly, this is one of the limitations of our study.

Social Integration

The social integration of an individual hinges on two central factors. The first refers to the adaptation of the individual to, or his learning of, the ways of thinking, feeling and doing things that prevail in the society he lives in, so that he can live in harmony with the whole of society. The other is the individual's response to society, i.e. the specific way in which he participates in the life and development of the society he lives in by the various roles he assumes.

Although adaptation is a life-long process, it is mostly during childhood that people come in contact with the patterns of thought and action in their community and learn to conform to them. Voluntary participation in society is minimal during this period. The individual's participation is almost entirely dependant on the decisions of others: parents, teachers and, in some cases, society itself through the judicial system.

With adolescence, comes the right to decide for oneself and the gradual transfer of responsibility from adults to young people. Choices made during adolescence are still very often influenced by the past but they gradually become more personal. Slowly, an original and personal picture of what the mature individual will be in society emerges.

What part will he play in the economic and political life of his country? In what type of family unit will he live? Will he develop an interest in associational activities or in the cultural life of his community? For youths aged 15-24, various forms of social participation represent various stages of experimentation. Some forms are continued, others are discontinued; a stable pattern of social participation will appear only later for most individuals. As for adapting to society, the other facet of an individual's social integration, it also is never fully completed. As society changes, individuals must keep adjusting. Certain indicators, such as values adhered to and respect for institutions, make it possible to evaluate adaptation to the surrounding culture.

Some Aspects

Social integration takes place mainly within the family, at school and in the workplace. The family, where individuals are free to express themselves in an intimate environment, is the basic social structure. It is where basic social skills are developed and where experiments in participation are first made. Later on, the school provides the child with a new and extended framework for socialization. Its broader social base enables the child and the adolescent to come in contact with information accumulated over time and

continues the role initiated by the family in conveying values. Finally, the workplace provides the opportunity to make an active contribution to the community while requiring adjustment to specific values and modes of conduct. It thus, in turn, promotes integration in society.

We will not elaborate on these social environments in this study. They are the subject of other documents prepared by the Social Trends Analysis Directorate[1]. We will concentrate rather on the agents of socialization which intervene during the leisure time of young people, outside work or school-related activities.

Most authors use the notion of "time" or "activity" to define leisure-time activity (Piel, 1968). Whatever the bases for the definition, it includes a reference to work (or other obligations of life) and to the notion of freedom associated with leisure time. Thus, Dumazedier (1968) defines leisure time activity as "a set of occupations which an individual is free to engage in to acquire, with a disinterested attitude, some knowledge or training, to develop his voluntary social participation or creative ability after having met his professional, family and social obligations" (translated). As for the Petit Robert dictionary (1976), it distinguishes between leisure time ("loisir") and leisure-time activity ("loisirs") which are defined respectively as "the time at one's command that is free of duties and constraints" and "that which occupies or entertains a person during spare time" (translated).

We have no intention of developing our own definition of leisure time or leisure-time activity in this study. We accept the analytical framework of the surveys consulted which suggests a series of activities generally considered to be leisure-time activities. We also cannot verify whether these activities are freely chosen by the respondents or whether they correspond to social, economic, family, health or other obligations. In the latter case, they would no longer come under real spare time but under what Samson & Stafford (1983) call "constrained time" (translated). They would no longer be leisure-time activities. We will accept the answers of the respondents who, in good faith, indicated as leisure-time activities the activities suggested in the survey. We should also mention that the activities suggested in the questionnaires by no means constitute an exhaustive list of leisure-time activities and that certain groupings seem inappropriate.

Leisure-time activities have certain functions in the lives of people who engage in them, especially among youths (Piel, 1968). Firstly, they provide an opportunity to relax and amuse oneself. They enable young people to rid themselves of their frustrations (outlet) and also play a compensatory role among those who are dulled by the monotony of their work or studies. In all these cases, leisure-time activities serve to reestablish a balance and permit the recovery of energy which can be reapplied to usual pursuits .

The second function of leisure-time activities is that they are used for experimentation. Some activities enable young people to develop their knowledge, acquire new skills or perfect skills already acquired. Leisure-time activities thus provide a non-threatening framework for testing ideas and skills in real situations.

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[1] See the list of reports on youth studies available from the Social Trends Analysis Directorate at the end of this document.

Finally, leisure-time activities are agents of socialization. Some activities provide an opportunity for social encounters all the more valued by young people when they are the result of free choice. Young people can thus develop their network of social relations. Leisure-time activities are also conveyors of values which can contribute to youth integration if they support accepted social values. Also, some activities encourage young people to take an active part in community decisions. They not only provide rewarding personal experience, but can also develop a sustained interest in public affairs and politics, which will be beneficial to society.

Participation in leisure-time activities, which is the first facet of social integration, will be dealt with in two chapters: leisure-time activities in general, with emphasis on media and participatory activities (Chapter 2); and specific leisure-time activities which correspond more or less to the consumption of socio-cultural goods and services in the community (Chapter 3). We will then discuss in greater length two other manifestations of social integration which, although mentioned in the general discussion on leisure-time activities, deserve special attention: associational participation (Chapter 4), and political involvement (Chapter 5). This last chapter will also include a discussion of the other facet of social integration: adherence to Canadian values and respect for Canadian institutions.

1.2 Methodology

1.2.1 Objectives of the Study

This report is essentially a reference paper designed to: 1) gather under a single cover all available data on the subjects under discussion; and 2) provide an initial analysis of this data. In most cases, however, the analysis is limited to a simple description of the facts. We are aware that this level of analysis is inadequate to interpret the complexity of the phenomena under study and that the reader will have to fill the gaps left by our approach. Given the decision to limit our analysis to the data available, the text may appear disjointed in many places and will no doubt leave the reader dissatisfied.

1.2.2 Sources of Information and Their Limitations

The sources of information we have used are all national in scope: four were produced by Statistics Canada as a supplement to the Labour Force Survey; one was produced by an independent para-governmental organization (Canada Fitness Survey); and the other three come from survey firms (see Table 1.1).

As the table shows, the range in sample size is very wide. The samples in the surveys conducted by Statistics Canada and Fitness Canada are large enough to justify generalization of results for the entire population of young Canadians. The Goldfarb sample was also large enough to represent the reference group adequately. However, the representativeness of the sample was affected by the methodology which consisted of telephone interviews which a number of respondents were able to avoid.

The other surveys used samples of approximately 350 young people. This sample size is much too small to truly represent a population scattered across the country. These surveys were nevertheless used because of the originality of their data. Care should be taken, however, not to consider their results

as a true reflection of reality, but rather as indicators of youth behaviour or attitudes. The small size of the Gallup and Crop samples rendered their breakdown by selected characteristics useless due to their non-representativeness. Only the broader surveys permit this type of analysis.

One of the major limitations of these surveys is that they use different age groups: some survey firms (Crop, Gallup) provide data only for youths aged 18 to 24 whereas our intention was to study 15-24 year-olds. The Goldfarb survey does not cover anyone over 24 years of age, which makes impossible any attempt to compare this data with other age groups. It is also impossible to establish temporal trends on the basis of these various surveys. Each will be examined individually with the specific data it provides.

Also, the data on leisure-time activities date back to 1978. Considering the rapid changes in society over the past few years, it is very likely that the lifestyle of the 15-24 year-olds in 1978 was very different from that of today's youth. Unfortunately, no subsequent survey verifies this hypothesis. We therefore have reason to question the validity of this data for the youth of today.

Finally, the nature of available data forces us to broach the subject of social integration in a conformist perspective. Since fringe and alternate activities were not covered by the surveys we were able to obtain, we cannot evaluate the extent to which some young people reject contemporary society or their number, nor determine the substitute mechanisms they develop.

TABLE 1.1: Description of sources of information used in the study

Source of information	Sample size for the different age groups			Number of households	Methodology	Date
	15–24 yrs	18–24 yrs	25 yrs & over	15 yrs & over		
1975 Survey of Selected Leisure Activities, Statistics Canada	(1)	(2)	(1)	15 000	Questionnaire left with respondent and later picked up by interviewer	October 1975
1976 Survey of Fitness, Physical Recreation and Sport. Statistics Canada.	(1)	(2)	(1)	27 000	Questionnaire left with respondent and later picked up by interviewer	October 1976
Survey of Leisure Time Activities - Reading Habits. Statistics Canada	4 304	(2)	12 400	9 000	Questionnaire left with respondent and later picked up by interviewer	February 1978
Survey of Volunteer Workers. Statistics Canada	(1)	(2)	(1)	18 745	Personal interview	February 1980
Canada Fitness Survey. Fitness Canada.	4 728	(2)	14 761		Questionnaire completed in the presence of interviewer	February to July 1981
CARA Studies of values. Gallup	(2)	322	932		Personal interview	June 1982
Goldfarb Survey	1 200	(2)	(2)		Telephone interview	April-May
The Crop Reports	(2)	343	1 651		Personal interview	April 1983
	(2)	354	1 654		Personal interview	June 1983
	(2)	347	1 652		Personal interview	September 1983
	(2)	349	1 652		Personal interview	November 1983

1. We were not able to obtain data on sample size.
2. This age group was not used in the study or the data for these age groups are not available.

2. LEISURE-TIME ACTIVITIES

This chapter will look into the leisure-time activities of young people. Statistics Canada's Survey of Leisure-Time Activities - Reading Habits, conducted in 1978, is the main source of information on this subject. It identifies thirteen leisure-time activities which people do in their spare time[2]. We are interested in the results on total time devoted to leisure activities by young people, and on the distribution of this time among four main categories of leisure-time activities: media activities, participatory activities, social activities, and finally, relaxing, reflecting, resting and planning. We will also show the participation rates for these activities. Finally, we will attempt to determine which of the selected variables (age, sex, region, environment, language, marital status, education and labour force status) create differences in the behaviour of young people regarding leisure-time activities. First, let us examine the attitudes of young people regarding leisure-time activities.

2.1 What Young People Think About Leisure-Time Activities

Various sources provide information on the attitudes of young people regarding leisure-time activities. Ninety-two percent (92%) of young people aged 15-24 interviewed by Goldfarb (1983) consider having leisure time to be a moderately important or very important goal (see Table A-1)[3]. This percentage does not vary by age or sex. However, it rises in Quebec (96%) and decreases in Ontario (88%) and among unemployed youths (87%). "Having leisure time" ranks fifth among the eleven goals and aspirations suggested in the questionnaire, ahead of "owning a home" and "making a lot of money", but after "being successful at whatever you do", "having a job", "having a stable, fulfilling family life", and "having a lot of friends".

However, the fact that a large number of young people have a positive attitude toward leisure-time activities does not seem to translate into an equivalent demand for government intervention in this area. In the Crop survey, only 51% of young women and 44% of young men aged 18-24 believe that the government should guarantee free time for leisure activities. The figures are lower among the population 25 years of age and over (40% and 37% for men and women respectively). Among the items suggested (legal services, medical care, post-secondary education, retirement, adequate housing and income), leisure time received the least support.

This question may have been interpreted as government intrusion in an area of life deemed to be personal and free, or the respondents may have had difficulty identifying possible forms of government intervention. Yet the government is already involved by designating mandatory public holidays, a policy that does not seem to raise objections. Perhaps existing measures are deemed adequate and additional intervention is seen as unnecessary by a majority of respondents.

According to Crop (April 1983), a substantial number of young people, particularly men, seem willing to spend a lot of money on leisure (see Table A-2). Indeed, 34% of men and 20% of women aged 18-24 are planning to spend more than $150 on the purchase of home recreational equipment (television,

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2 The questions selected for this report are shown in Appendix 1.

3 Tables identified with the letter "A" (as in A-1) are shown in Appendix 2.

stereo, musical instruments) within the next six months, while 41% of men and 18% of women plan to spend the same amount on the purchase of sports and leisure equipment (skis, boat, golf clubs, etc.). These percentages are clearly lower for the population 25 years of age and over (around 10%) despite the fact that this group is probably better off financially. It is true that this type of equipment is usually purchased when people are young and is kept for a long time.

With whom do young people like to spend their leisure time? What types of activity do they prefer? Are they enjoyable? The Gallup poll carried out among the adult population of Canada (18 and over) provides some answers to these questions. Nearly half of the 18-24 year-olds (48%) prefer to be with friends during their leisure time whereas 23% prefer to be with family. These proportions are inverted in the 25 and over group where 21% prefer friends and 52% prefer family. Friendship is therefore desired most during youth. This preference tends to change with age, probably in favour of one's spouse and children. We observe, however, that approximately 6% of young people prefer to be alone during their leisure time. This percentage is twice as great for the adult population. Lively places are favoured by 12% of young people and only 5% of adults.

More than 71% of young people in the Gallup poll (1982) find it more important to be active during their leisure time, compared to 63% of the older population, while 10% of young people and 18% of adults seek rest. However, approximately 20% of both young people and adults volunteered that they seek relaxation and doing things equally during their leisure time. Unfortunately, the ambiguity of the question makes it difficult to interpret the results. Does the question refer to specific types of leisure activities known to be active, as opposed to other types considered to be passive, or does it refer to a state of mind which would consist of seeking leisure activities for relaxation (to regain energy spent at work) rather than personal development (for example, to gain satisfaction that work fails to provide).

One thing is certain: young people value free time more than their elders. To the Gallup poll question (1982) regarding return to work after the weekend, one third of young workers stated that they regret that the weekend is over, compared to 20% of the adult population. Another third enjoy both the weekend and work (same proportion among adults), and the last third look forward to work. This last opinion is shared by 45% of adults respondents. It would therefore appear that work is perceived differently by young and older people. We may be witnessing a shift in values regarding the importance of work in one's life, in favour of satisfaction derived from leisure activities. This trend could accelerate if work provides less satisfaction and society improves the infrastructures and variety of leisure-time activities. The critical variable would then be the ability of young people to afford the activities they desire. In this respect, the Crop survey (November '84) suggests that only a small majority of young people have adequate financial resources for leisure-time activities (60% of men and 54% of women). Considering the high value young people attach to leisure time, a chronic lack of financial resources would likely create and sustain a high degree of frustration.

It would appear necessary, however, to qualify these observations. We may be witnessing what demographers call "the age effect" whereby the older

people of today, in their youth, would have responded the same way as the 18-24 year-olds of 1982. In that case, there would not be any shift in values since the young of today would gain a more positive attitude toward work as they grow older. In this regard, we should mention that, according to Goldfard survey (1983), 97% of young people consider "having a job" an important goal in their life. Furthermore, a substantial proportion of the 18-24 year-olds stated that they would accept a dull job. Jobs which involve creativity and responsibility require a higher level of education and experience which a large portion of young workers are probably unable to offer. This may explain the attitude of a significant proportion of young people regarding non-work time.

2.2 Time Devoted to Leisure

Time is an inelastic variable which must be divided among various activities. Some activities are unavoidable, such as sleeping, eating, washing and dressing, and for most people, working to earn a living. Other activities, such as leisure activities, are optional and allow the individual to make a choice and express his interests and tastes. How much time do young people devote to leisure activities? We will answer this question in the following section.

2.2.1 Leisure Time Per Week

The preface to the questionnaire on leisure-time activities stated that anywhere from 15 to 60 hours of leisure time per week would "normally be reasonable". It would appear, however, that the leisure time reported by the population surveyed exceeds that estimate. Indeed, the average time devoted to the leisure activities suggested in the questionnaire totals 69.7 hours for the 15-24 group, and 58.8 hours for the 25 and over population (see Table 2.1). This represents 41% of a full week among young people, and 35% among adults. These figures differ significantly from expected results. Are they the result of the much predicted "leisure society" or are they due to distortions arising from the methodology employed[4]? Since we can offer no clear answer to this question, the data on leisure time will be considered as an indicator of magnitude rather than an accurate estimate of actual leisure time.

Total leisure time varies among the 15-24 year-olds with certain sociodemographic variables. Sex and environment cause no variation (69.2 and 70.1 hours among men and women respectively, and 70.1 and 67.9 hours among young urban and young rural dwellers respectively). Regional variations among young people are generally minimal. The youths of Quebec and British Colombia are the only ones who depart from the national average in any significant way: the first report a lower amount of leisure time with 66.5 hours, and the latter a

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[4] According to Kinsley (1981), there is a likelihood that the respondents overestimated the number of hours actually devoted to leisure; that they double-counted time spent in doing two activities at the same time (e.g. one hour of reading while listening to records would have been counted twice under reading and under listening to records); or that, since the instructions did not allow for fractions of hours, the respondents automatically rounded up to the highest number thus causing an overestimation proportional to the number of activities reported.

TABLE 2.1: Average number of hours spent on leisure activities during the reference week, by age and sex, and for the 15-24 age group, by selected characteristics, Canada, 1978.

Age and Sex	Number of hours
Both sexes	61.8
15-19 years	73.7
20-24 years	65.7
15-24 years	**69.7**
25 years & over	58.8
Men	59.0
15-19 years	73.4
20-24 years	64.8
15-24 years	69.2
25 years & over	55.5
Women	64.0
15-19 years	73.7
20-24 years	66.2
15-24 years	70.1
25 years & over	61.9
Total (15-24 years)	**69.7**
Region	
Maritimes	71.0
Quebec	66.5
Ontario	71.3
Prairies	70.2
British Colombia	72.0
Environment	
Urban	70.1
Rural	67.9

Marital Status	Number of hours
Single	71.3
Married	64.1
Other	82.5
Mother Tongue (M.T.)	
English	70.8
French	66.3
English & French	77.0
Other	66.2
Language Spoken at home (L.S.H.)	
English	71.2
French	66.4
English & French	70.4
Other	66.3
Education	
0-8 years	66.0
9-13 years	71.7
Some post-sec.	68.7
Certificate/diploma	64.6
University degree	56.1
Occupation	
Not in labour force	70.5
Unemployed	81.3
Employed	65.8
Student	70.9

Source: Statistics Canada, Survey of Leisure-Time Activities, 1978. Special compilations.

slightly greater amount with 72.0 hours. With respect to the language variable, we observe three distinct subgroups: the first, with approximately 66 hours of leisure time during the reference week, includes Francophone (M.T. and L.S.H.[5]) and Allophones (M.T. and L.S.H.); the second group, with close to average leisure time, includes Anglophones (M.T. and L.S.H.) and those who speak both official languages at home; and a third group made up of bilingual people (M.T.) is the only one which departs appreciably form the average with 77 hours of leisure time during the reference week.

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5 The following abbreviations will be used: M.T.: mother tongue; and L.S.H.: language spoken at home.

There are certain variables, however, which give rise to substantial variations. The younger group (15-19) reports 8 hours of leisure time more than the 20-24 year-olds and they, in turn, report 7 hours more than the 25 and over group. Less leisure time seems to go hand-in-hand with increasing age and responsibility. Thus, employed youths report the least leisure time (65.8 hours) as opposed to unemployed youths who have much more leisure time than the national average (81.3 hours). Similarly, young married persons report less leisure time than single persons and those of the "other" category (64.1, 71.3 and 82.5 hours respectively).

Leisure time also seems to be tied to education. Young graduates report less leisure time than the others, i.e. 56.1 hours among university graduates, and 64.6 hours among those with a post-secondary certificate or diploma. Since education increases employability, it may be that the smaller amount of leisure time reported by these young graduates is due to the fact that they have a job.

2.2.2 Proportional Distribution of Leisure Time

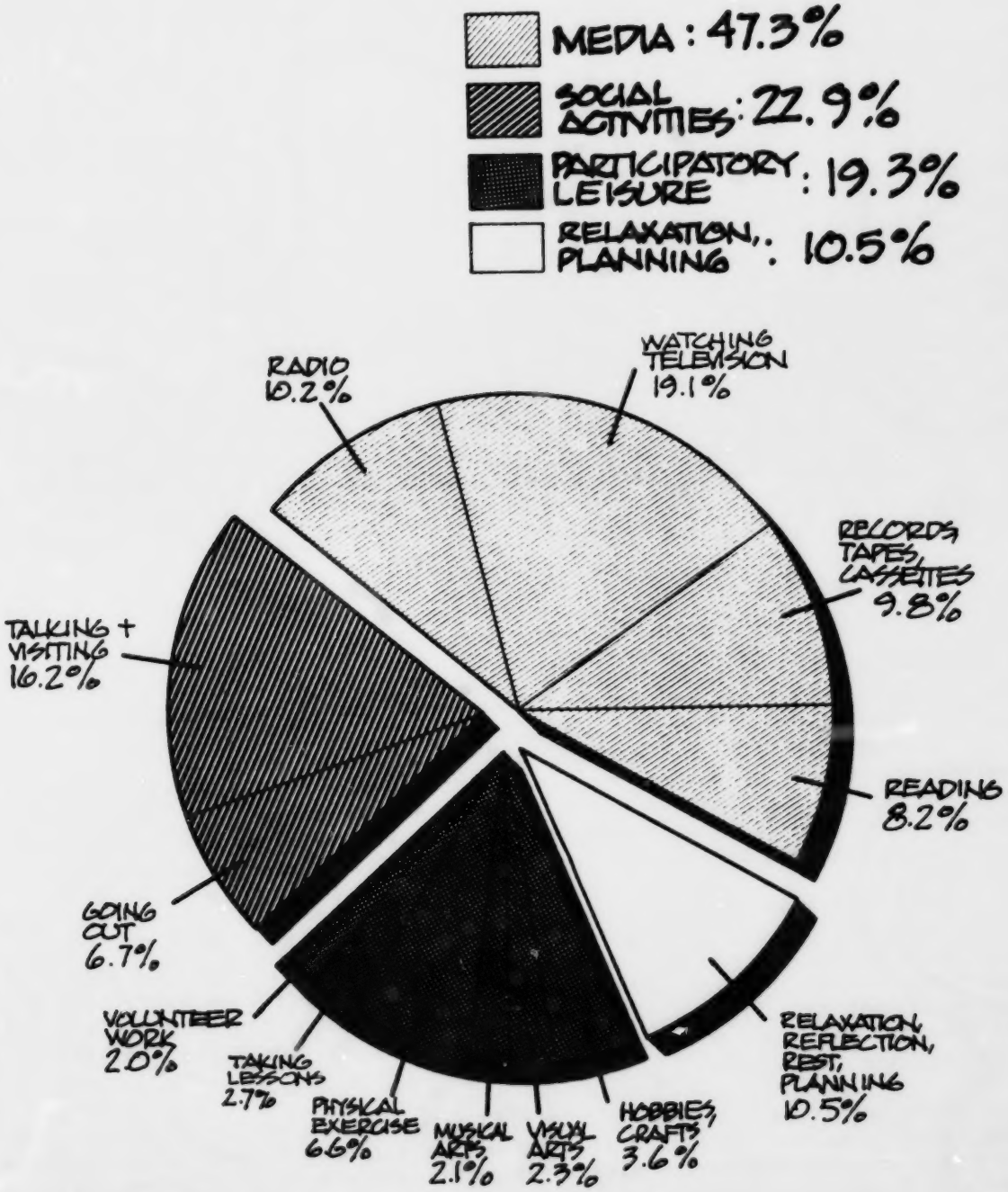
How is leisure time divided among the various activities suggested in the survey? Figure 2.1 illustrates the portion of time devoted to each activity during the reference week by young people aged 15-24. Clearly, the greatest proportion of leisure time among youths is taken up by the electronic media (watching or listening to television, radio, records, tapes and cassettes). Alone, these activities account for 27.2 hours or nearly 40% of the leisure time of young people aged 15 to 25, and combined with reading, they take up nearly half their spare time, for a total of 32.9 hours (see Table A-3). Participatory leisure activities such as volunteer work, taking lessons or formal instruction, physical exercise, engaging in musical or visual arts activities, and engaging in hobby or craft activities take up less than 20% of the leisure time of young people (13.5 hours). Nearly one quarter (16.0 hours) of the leisure time of 15-24 year-olds is devoted to social activities like going out, visiting or talking to friends and relatives, whereas 11% of their total leisure time (7.3 hours) is spent relaxing, reflecting, resting or planning.

Based on the percentage of time devoted to each activity, the five (5) favourite leisure activities of young people 15 to 19 years of age are, in order of preference: watching television; visiting or talking to friends or relatives; listening to records, tapes or cassettes; relaxing, reflecting, resting or planning; and listening to the radio (see Figure 2.2). The list of favourite activities among 20-24 year-olds excludes listening to records, tapes or cassettes but includes reading in fifth place. The same activities take up the greater part of adult leisure time except that listening to the radio and relaxing/reflecting/resting/planning are in reverse order of preference.

The least popular leisure activities among 15-19 year-olds are those which require a greater personal effort: hobby or craft, taking formal instruction, engaging in musical or visual arts activities and volunteer work. These activities also come last among 20-24 year-olds, although in a different order. The adult population seems to devote a greater proportion of time to hobbies, and physical exercise replaces hobbies in the list of five least popular activities.

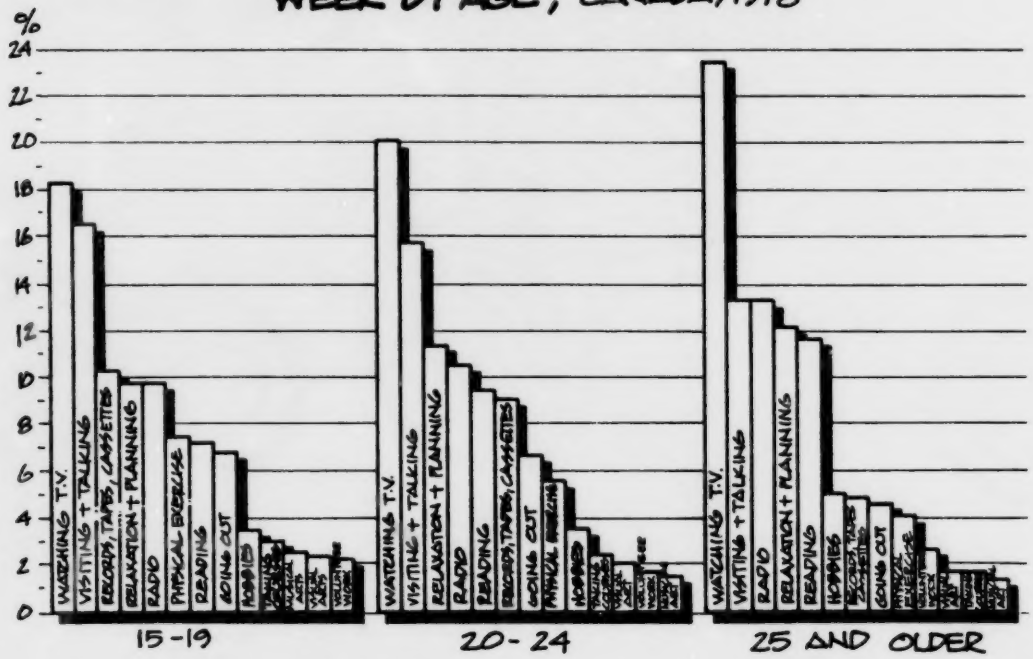
Therefore, based on age, there are no major differences apparent between favourite and least favourite activities.

FIGURE 2.1: PROPORTION OF TOTAL LEISURE TIME SPENT ON EACH LEISURE ACTIVITY DURING THE REFERENCE WEEK, 15-24, CANADA, 1978



SOURCES: TABLE A-3, APPENDIX 2, TABLES 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, AND 2.5

FIGURE 2.2 PROPORTION OF TOTAL LEISURE TIME SPENT ON EACH LEISURE ACTIVITY DURING THE REFERENCE WEEK BY AGE, CANADA, 1978



SOURCES: TABLES 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5

2.3 Leisure Time Behaviour

Many factors influence the choice of leisure-time activity: the availability of activities, past and present experiences, skills and abilities, personality, available time, and for young people, degree of independence. In the next section, we will look at the leisure choices of young people from two points of view: time devoted to the activity during the reference week, and rate of participation in the activity during the reference year. The activities will be grouped into four categories: media activities; participatory activities; social activities; and relaxing, reflecting, resting and planning.

2.3.1 Media Activities

Media activities are very popular among young people. They not only take up close to 50% of their leisure time but, in the reference year, they involved almost all of the 15-24 year-olds with participation rates of 98% for television, 94% for records, tapes or cassettes, 94% for radio, and 93% for reading (see Table 2.2).

These participation rates are particularly uniform for the variables age, sex, region, milieu, marital status and mother tongue. However, they are less constant when the population aged 15-24 is cross-classified by language spoken at home (L.S.H.), education and labour force status. Indeed, young Allophones (L.S.H.) have lower participation rates than youths who indicated other languages. This is also observed among youths not in the labour force, compared

TABLE 2.2: Media activities (average number of hours in the reference week and rates (%) of participation in the reference year) by age and sex, and for the 15-24 age group, by selected characteristics, Canada, 1978

Characteristic	Records, tapes, cassettes		Television		Radio		Books, newspapers, magazines	
	Hours	Rate	Hours	Rate	Hours	Rate	Hours	Rate
Age and Sex								
Both sexes	3.8	76.3	13.7	96.5	7.7	90.7	6.6	91.5
15-19 years	7.6	95.0	13.5	97.5	7.2	94.3	5.3	92.4
20-24 years	6.0	93.6	13.2	97.6	6.9	93.7	6.2	93.8
15-24 years	**6.8**	**94.3**	**13.3**	**97.5**	**7.1**	**94.0**	**5.7**	**93.1**
25 years & over	2.8	70.0	13.8	96.1	7.8	89.6	6.9	90.9
Men	3.9	76.8	13.2	96.8	6.7	91.0	6.2	90.8
15-19 years	8.1	94.6	13.2	98.0	6.5	93.8	5.0	89.6
20-24 years	6.4	94.2	12.3	97.9	6.6	94.5	5.9	93.3
15-24 years	7.3	94.4	12.8	98.0	6.6	94.1	5.4	91.4
25 years & over	2.6	70.3	13.3	96.4	6.8	89.8	6.5	90.6
Women	3.8	75.8	14.1	96.2	8.6	90.5	6.9	92.1
15-19 years	7.1	95.3	13.7	96.8	7.9	94.7	5.6	95.3
20-24 years	5.5	92.9	14.1	97.3	7.2	92.8	6.5	94.4
15-24 years	6.3	94.1	13.9	97.1	7.5	93.8	6.1	94.9
25 years & over	3.0	69.6	14.2	95.9	8.9	89.3	7.2	91.2
Total (15-24 yrs)	**6.8**	**94.3**	**13.3**	**97.5**	**7.1**	**94.0**	**5.7**	**93.1**
Region								
Maritimes	6.8	92.7	15.0	96.9	7.2	93.5	5.6	89.2
Quebec	5.7	91.2	13.7	97.6	7.5	91.1	5.4	90.3
Ontario	7.6	95.9	12.8	97.7	6.8	95.3	5.8	94.7
Prairies	6.8	95.8	13.0	97.6	6.8	95.4	5.8	95.6
British Columbia	7.4	96.2	13.2	97.1	6.9	95.4	6.4	95.1
Environment								
Urban	7.0	94.3	13.2	97.7	7.0	94.2	5.9	94.0
Rural	6.2	94.7	13.8	96.9	7.2	92.9	5.0	89.3
Marital Status								
Single	7.2	95.0	12.4	97.3	7.1	94.0	5.8	93.2
Married	5.4	92.1	15.9	98.3	6.7	94.0	5.6	92.6
Other	9.9	94.3	15.3	97.5	13.7	93.5	8.1	97.3
Mother Tongue (M.T.)								
English	7.2	96.0	13.2	97.7	6.8	95.5	6.0	95.2
French	5.9	91.1	14.0	97.7	7.5	90.6	5.1	88.8
English and French	7.9	97.9	13.0	99.8	8.3	97.2	6.3	95.6
Other	6.0	88.2	12.0	94.3	6.8	91.0	5.7	88.7
Language Spoken at Home (L.S.H.)								
English	7.2	96.2	13.1	97.7	6.8	95.9	6.0	95.5
French	5.9	91.7	13.9	97.7	7.5	90.5	5.2	89.2
English and French	5.0	84.4	15.1	100.0	8.3	97.0	4.2	90.6
Other	6.8	82.7	12.2	92.9	7.3	85.5	5.1	81.5
Education								
0-8 years	6.6	81.9	15.1	94.7	7.2	83.9	4.4	74.7
9-13 years	7.2	94.7	14.2	97.8	7.3	94.6	5.7	93.2
Some post-sec.	6.7	96.7	10.1	95.8	6.5	95.4	6.3	97.7
Certificate/diploma	5.2	95.5	11.8	99.4	7.3	93.5	5.9	96.4
University degree	5.2	96.5	9.0	100.0	4.8	96.8	6.6	98.9
Labour Force Status								
Not in labour force	6.4	87.9	18.5	97.9	8.0	89.2	6.0	83.6
Unemployed	8.9	93.2	17.5	97.6	8.4	92.8	6.9	92.0
Employed	6.7	95.0	12.4	98.3	7.2	94.9	5.7	94.0
Student	6.7	95.3	12.2	96.7	6.5	94.5	5.5	94.7

Source: Statistics Canada, Survey of Leisure-Time Activities, 1978. Special compilations.

to youths who indicated another status. Education, however, causes the greatest variations; there seems to be a direct relationship between education and participation, with clearly lower rates among youths with the least education (0-8 years).

Although participation rates (for the reference year) are relatively similar for all media activities, the time devoted to them (during the reference week) varies much more. Indeed, watching television accounts for an average of 13.3 hours, listening to radio, 7.1 hours, listening to records, tapes and cassettes, 6.8 hours, and reading, 5.7 hours.

Noticeable variations are also observed for all the socio-demographic indicators, except milieu. Although the total time devoted to media activities hardly varies according to age and sex (see Table A-3), the 15-19 age group spends an average of two hours more listening to records, tapes and cassettes than the 20-24 age group. This difference is due to more listening time among men 15-19 years of age (8.1 hours) and less listening time among women 20-24 years of age (5.5 hours). For reading, the reverse is observed with men aged 15-19 reporting the least time (5.0 hours) and women aged 20-24,the most time (6.5 hours).

Media activities do not attract the same amount of attention time or interest in all regions. Peak TV watching times are recorded in the Maritimes, listening to records, tapes and cassettes in Ontario and British Columbia, and reading in British Columbia. At the other end of the scale, Quebec youths spend relatively less time listening to records, tapes and cassettes than the young people of other regions.

As for the other variables, the most noteworthy observations are as follows:

- With respect to marital status, separated, widowed or divorced youths devoted 47.0 hours to media activities during the reference week, compared to the national average of 32.9 hours; the greatest difference is in listening to the radio which is almost twice the national average;

- There seems to be a correlation between education and time devoted to media activities; while the relationship is negative for three of the media activities: listening to records, tapes and cassettes, watching television and listening to the radio (higher level of education is associated with less time); it is positive with respect to reading (higher level of education is associated with more time);

- Unemployed youths devote considerable time to media activities, a total of 41.7 hours (32.9 hours by those aged 15-24). However, they share peak TV watching times with the youths not in the labour force, i.e. approximately 18 hours during the reference week.

Such widespread consumption of media products combined with relatively high rates of exposure is sure to have a substantial impact on young people. The media are not neutral. The entertainment, information and value judgments transmitted reflect the interests they represent. Their view of reality may be distorted and may be accepted as factual by less discriminating listeners or viewers. Young people are particularly vulnerable as they lack reference

points against which to evaluate the messages received. According to a study reported by Altheide (1979), those under 30, who have always been exposed to television, are more likely than their elders to accept the view of reality presented by the media. The messages transmitted by the media therefore influence the cognitive and normative image that young people have of the world they live in.

What is the message received by young people? The Bureau of Broadcast Measurement[6] survey, conducted in the spring of 1983, provides some information on television viewing. This data, however, is limited to young people 12-17 years old. Furthermore, we had to make a selection among the regions covered in the survey, retaining 14 regions which represent the major population centres of nine Canadian provinces. Prince Edward Island was not included as its sample of 12-17 year-olds was too small.

The programs which receive the highest ratings in most regions of Canada are American programs like Three's Company, The Fall Guy, Love Boat, Little House on the Prairie and Chips. Available in French, these programs draw a Francophone as well as an Anglophone audience. Other American programs are also very popular in English Canada: Magnum P.I., One Day at a Time, Dukes of Hazzard, Happy Days, and Fame. Young Francophones are probably just awaiting their translated versions in order to watch them regularly. There is, however, a marked interest among young Quebecers for locally produced programs. Thus, soap operas "Les Moineaux et les Pinsons", "Marisol", "Peau de banane", "Une vie", and "Le temps d'une paix" feature among the ten most popular programs for young Quebeckers. This kind of selection, limited to a specific geographic area, is facilitated in Quebec by linguistic factors. It is also found in the Maritimes for General Hospital, and in the Prairies for Mash and Dynasty, where these programs are the most popular programs for all the subregions considered, but do not make the "top ten" list of programs for the rest of Canada.

Except in Quebec, programs produced in the United States receive the highest ratings. Young English Canadians are therefore immersed in a television environment that reflects American values and lifestyles. These programs are mostly fiction (soap operas and serials) and fall mostly under four types: situation comedies, love, police and adventure stories. We would have to make a comprehensive analysis of the content of these programs to evaluate the quality and aim of their messages and to understand their influence on Canadian youths.

The Crop survey (November 1983) indicates that sports broadcasts, movies and programs on science and technology are favourites among men in the 18-24 age group (see Table A-4). Women prefer movies, soap operas and mini-series. However, men and women agree on the need for more programs on science and technology and mini-series (see Table A-5) and on the sufficiency of the number of movies shown on television. They disagree on sports broadcasts and soap operas: men find that there are too many soap operas but enough sports programming, while women feel the opposite (enough soap operas but too much sports coverage).

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6 The Bureau of Broadcast Measurement conducts periodic surveys among television viewers.

There seems to be an interest in scientific programs among both young men and women aged 18-24 and a special interest in sports programs among men. These programs are very current and in touch with reality. In this respect, it is interesting to note that the interest of the population 25 and over in fact-based programs is growing. Science and technology, as well as news and general information programs, are gaining popularity at the expense of fictional programs.

It is difficult to evaluate the leisure time previously devoted to participatory and social activities which is now absorbed by media activities. Television, especially, is all-pervasive. In some families, it stays on for hours, with or without someone watching, serving as a companion and often taking precedence over conversation. According to the B.B.M., young people prefer fictional programs. Even when the media transmit information on actual facts, it maintains a certain distance between the receiver of the message and the event itself, thus encouraging life in a make-believe world. Yet, young people need the test of reality to learn what has to be learned. Indeed, they must test in the outside world the merits of the opinions they are forming, as well as the effectiveness of newly discovered cognitive, social and behavioural tools and their ability to use them correctly. There is no doubt that the media allow some vicarious learning (i.e. through observation of role-models), but this learning must be supplemented by practical experience in actual situations. Time devoted to the media is obviously no longer available for personal experimentation.

The media also provide information on sensational events, such as war, crime, famine, and natural disasters, which occur far away and are beyond our control. On the other hand, local problems which are within our reach can remain unknown or appear insignificant. The media thus contribute to the development of a universal conscience often at the expense of community involvement rooted in everyday life.

Finally, the media influence the development of the identity of young people. By the values and models it presents, it offers young people a wide range of possibilities for their future. Even more important, however, is the role that the media play in conveying the image of youth as a social group. The media did not invent the youth phenomenon, but they do promote the development of a youth culture perceived as distinct from the adult world, with its own modes of conduct, tastes, values and problems, as if young people were alien to our society (Altheide, 1979). Youth is described as a period of uncertainty, searching for oneself and the meaning of one's life, a period of irresponsibility and pursuit of pleasures, etc. Once this image is accepted, by young people as well as adults, the conditions are present for discrimination against youth, which can go as far as closing the door to employment opportunities.

From the youths' point of view, they strive to mirror the image portrayed of them in the hope of gaining access to a social environment where they feel accepted. In this respect, the "pop" music played on the radio and on records, tapes and cassettes provides a very important rallying point for young people (Altheide, 1979). Its content (images, themes, lyrics and beats) is defined and understood to be distinctively youthful. Music, through its favourite media (radio, records, cassettes), is present in most of the activities of young people. Popular music therefore appears to be the key to the world of youth (Altheide, 1979). To be interested in this kind of music is to assert oneself as young and claim membership in the group; to ignore it is to risk remaining on the fringe of that group.

2.3.2 Participatory Activities

The common characteristic of the activities grouped under this heading is that they actually involve people in the production of something tangible. Those who engage in these activities take an active part in their performance. This type of activity provides rewarding learning opportunities for young people: the experiences are diverse, the challenges real and, because they are freely chosen, these activities represent significant goals for young people. Through these activities, young people can exercise initiative as well as their creative, motor and cognitive skills, and in so doing discover their abilities and limitations.

Six activities of this type are suggested in the questionnaire. Total leisure time devoted to these activities during the reference week is 13.5 hours (see Table A-3) and breaks down as follows: 4.6 hours for physical exercise, 2.5 hours for engaging in hobby or craft activities, 1.9 hours for taking lessons or formal instruction, 1.6 hours for engaging in visual arts activities, 1.5 hours for playing a musical instrument or voice practice, and 1.4 hours for volunteer work (see table 2.3). Participation rates for the reference year range from more than 80% for physical exercise (82%) to approximately 33% for lessons and formal instruction (32%) and volunteer work (37%). Sixty percent of young people engaged in a hobby or craft whereas slightly less than one youth in two engaged in a visual arts activity during the reference year (46%). Unlike the media activities for which participation rates are comparable, there are wide differences between the various activities grouped under this heading.

Differences due to socio-demographic variables are also more pronounced among participatory activities than among media activities. Indeed, as the two indicators show, young people engage in physical exercise, musical or visual arts activities and lessons or formal instruction more than the adult population. The indicators show a similar involvement in volunteer work by the two age groups. Young people, however, devote fewer hours to hobbies and crafts but their participation rate is higher. There seems to be a tendency for young people to show interest in a greater number of hobbies but to practice them less regularly than adults.

Among young people themselves, a variation is observed in the degree of involvement in participatory activities according to age: the 15-19 year-olds have higher participation rates than the 20-24 year-olds. For example, there is a difference of almost two hours between the two age groups in time devoted to physical exercise and participation rates for musical or arts activities and volunteer work are at least 10% higher in the younger age group (15-19).

More women than men aged 15-24 engage in visual arts activities and hobbies, or take lessons or formal instruction. On the other hand, young men (especially in the 15-19 age group) devote more time than their counterparts to physical exercise and musical arts.

Based on region, participation rates are lower in the Maritimes and Quebec. The young in British Columbia have the highest participation rates across the board, matching those of Ontario youths for musical or visual arts, and those of Prairie and Maritime youths for volunteer work. There are no significant regional differences in time devoted to physical exercise, volunteer work and hobbies during the reference week. Young Quebecers devote the

TABLE 2.3: Participatory activities[1] (average number of hours in the reference week and rates (%) of participation in the reference year) by age and sex, and for the 15-24 age group, by selected characteristics, Canada, 1978

Characteristic	Physical exercise		Visual arts		Musical arts		Volunteer work		Lessons, formal instruction		Hobby, craft	
	Hours	Rate	Hours	Rate	Hours	Rate	Hours	Rate	Hours	Rate	Hours	Rate
Age and Sex												
Both sexes	3.0	61.8	1.2	30.6	1.0	19.6	1.6	35.8	1.2	21.8	2.9	51.3
15-19 years	5.5	85.2	1.8	51.2	1.9	39.6	1.7	41.9	2.2	32.9	2.6	60.3
20-24 years	3.7	78.9	1.4	41.2	1.0	28.1	1.1	30.9	1.6	32.0	2.4	59.8
15-24 years	**4.6**	**82.1**	**1.6**	**46.3**	**1.5**	**33.9**	**1.4**	**36.5**	**1.9**	**32.4**	**2.5**	**60.1**
25 years & over	2.4	54.7	1.0	25.1	0.8	14.5	1.6	35.6	1.0	18.1	3.0	48.3
Men	3.4	65.5	1.1	29.3	1.0	19.0	1.5	35.0	1.2	19.6	2.1	43.5
15-19 years	6.4	86.5	1.7	46.7	2.1	36.5	1.8	39.1	2.2	29.2	2.6	54.5
20-24 years	4.4	83.1	1.4	36.1	1.2	26.9	1.1	32.5	1.6	29.2	1.8	52.5
15-24 years	5.5	84.9	1.5	41.5	1.7	31.9	1.4	35.9	1.9	29.2	2.2	53.5
25 years & over	2.7	58.5	0.9	24.8	0.8	14.3	1.6	34.7	0.9	16.1	2.1	39.8
Women	2.6	58.2	1.2	31.9	0.9	20.1	1.6	36.6	1.3	24.0	3.6	58.9
15-19 years	4.5	83.8	1.9	56.0	1.6	42.7	1.7	44.8	2.2	36.6	2.6	66.4
20-24 years	3.0	74.5	1.4	46.3	0.9	29.2	1.0	29.4	1.6	34.9	2.9	67.3
15-24 years	3.8	79.2	1.7	51.2	1.2	36.0	1.4	37.2	1.9	35.8	2.8	66.8
25 years & over	2.2	51.0	1.1	25.4	0.8	14.7	1.7	36.4	1.0	20.0	3.8	56.3
Total (15-24 yrs)	**4.6**	**82.1**	**1.6**	**46.3**	**1.5**	**33.9**	**1.4**	**36.5**	**1.9**	**32.4**	**2.5**	**60.1**
Region												
Maritimes	4.2	76.1	1.3	36.4	1.4	26.6	1.5	41.7	1.8	26.2	2.3	53.6
Quebec	4.6	81.3	1.7	39.0	1.3	26.5	1.3	28.0	2.8	32.0	2.6	51.3
Ontario	4.7	81.4	2.0	52.1	1.6	39.2	1.5	37.5	1.5	32.1	2.6	63.6
Prairies	5.0	86.3	1.1	48.1	1.3	36.1	1.3	42.8	1.4	34.3	2.3	64.1
British Columbia	4.4	86.0	1.2	53.8	1.8	40.5	1.4	41.3	1.7	38.1	2.5	72.3
Environment												
Urban	4.6	82.4	1.7	47.5	1.5	34.7	1.3	34.9	2.0	34.0	2.5	61.0
Rural	4.7	80.9	1.3	41.3	1.2	30.8	1.6	43.4	1.5	25.7	2.5	56.3
Marital Status												
Single	5.3	84.5	1.7	48.7	1.6	36.2	1.6	39.4	2.2	34.4	2.5	60.2
Married	2.8	75.5	1.2	39.2	0.9	27.3	0.9	28.4	1.1	27.1	2.4	59.8
Other	3.1	70.4	1.5	46.1	0.6	32.2	0.8	27.3	0.8	21.4	1.8	62.0
Mother Tongue (M.T.)												
English	4.7	83.3	1.5	49.5	1.5	37.7	1.4	41.1	1.4	33.5	2.4	64.6
French	4.5	81.9	1.7	37.8	1.1	24.2	1.4	28.0	2.7	28.7	2.6	50.3
English and French	4.6	83.1	1.9	48.4	1.8	37.4	1.5	41.0	3.3	45.6	2.7	63.6
Other	4.2	71.5	1.9	48.2	1.8	33.9	1.4	24.8	2.2	27.8	2.4	53.5
Language Spoken at Home (L.S.H.)												
English	4.7	83.4	1.6	49.5	1.6	37.8	1.4	40.6	1.5	33.9	2.5	64.9
French	4.6	81.8	1.6	38.8	1.1	25.4	1.4	29.2	2.8	29.6	2.6	51.0
English and French	4.8	58.6	2.2	39.3	1.3	23.3	2.1	30.7	4.0	45.3	1.5	44.8
Other	4.1	69.6	1.5	44.9	1.6	29.9	1.4	19.7	1.9	24.6	2.5	45.8
Education												
0-8 years	4.2	60.6	1.9	28.9	1.5	27.2	1.8	26.7	1.4	11.7	2.1	32.7
9-13 years	4.8	81.9	1.5	46.1	1.5	32.1	1.4	36.2	1.6	28.0	2.6	59.4
Some post-sec	4.6	87.0	2.3	51.5	1.5	42.2	1.4	42.2	3.6	48.5	2.0	67.9
Certificate/diploma	3.7	87.9	1.2	47.2	1.1	34.9	1.7	32.5	2.3	39.6	2.8	70.0
University degree	3.9	91.1	1.0	58.6	1.1	43.4	0.9	45.7	1.6	65.7	2.2	66.6
Labour Force Status												
Not in labour force	2.9	59.3	1.4	29.9	0.9	20.8	1.0	23.1	0.5	10.8	2.3	48.6
Unemployed	4.4	74.3	1.3	38.9	1.2	25.4	1.4	25.3	1.1	22.9	2.9	53.2
Employed	3.8	80.1	1.2	41.1	1.1	29.0	1.0	30.7	1.1	33.4	2.5	61.2
Student	5.8	90.1	2.1	56.4	1.9	43.1	1.8	47.0	3.1	38.4	2.4	63.0

[1] See Appendix 1, question 10, for the content of each item.
Source: Statistics Canada, Survey of Leisure-Time Activities, 1978. Special compilations.

most time to lessons and formal instruction, whereas Ontario and Prairie youths devote the least time. Finally, the interest of British Columbian youths in musical arts and Ontario youths in visual arts is confirmed by above-average participation time.

Following are highlights of the other socio-demographic indicators:

- Young people in rural areas show less interest in visual arts and lessons or formal instruction but much more interest in volunteer work than young people in urban areas;

- Participation rates tend to be higher among single young people than among youths of other marital status;

- Young Francophones (M.T. and L.S.H.) have participation rates below the national average for all participatory activities except physical exercise;

- Except for musical or visual arts activities, Allophones (M.T. and L.S.H.) have participation rates below the national average;

- Bilingual youths (L.S.H.) have participation rates below the national average for almost all activities (except formal instruction), whereas the rates for bilingual youths (M.T.) are above the national average across the board; it seems as though the two subgroups do not represent the same population;

- Higher education seems to be associated with higher participation rates; there is no evidence of a linear relationship between education and time devoted to participatory activities during the reference week: young university graduates reported a number of hours below the national average but that is the only visible constant;

- With respect to labour force status, with few exceptions, participation rates are either below the national average, as in the case of youths not in the labour force, the unemployed and employed, or above the national average as in the case of students.

With respect to physical activity, additional information is available from the Canada Fitness Survey (1981) which covered where and when physical activities are performed, with whom they are performed, and why they are performed. The results of this survey are shown in Tables A-6, A-7, A-8 and A-9.

The place of exercise favoured by the majority of people is at home. More than 40% of Canadians, young and old, do physical activities at home (see Table A-6). Among young people aged 15 to 24,

- this habit is more popular among women than men, and especially among 20-24 year-olds;

- nearly 50% of Ontarians prefer to exercise at home, compared to only 36% of Quebecers;

- more than 50% of unemployed youths and youths not in the labour force choose to exercise at home.

The second most popular place of exercise, after home, is outdoors (reported by 42% of young people and 38% of the adult population). This choice recorded even greater percentages among certain subgroups:

- approximately 50% of young people in Quebec and the Maritimes (compared to less than 40% for youths of other regions);

- 50% of the unemployed; and

- approximately 47% of university graduates and post-secondary students.

More than 30% of young people use sports facilities available at schools, colleges or universities, compared to only 4% of the adult population. The proportion is higher among 15-19 year-olds, compared to 20-24 year-olds (44% and 19% respectively), and among men, compared to women (35% versus 28%). It should be noted:

- that this choice is the least popular with Maritime and British Columbian youths;

- only 27% of youths in rural areas mention it;

- a substantial proportion of university graduates (46%) mention it;

- it is the place chosen by the highest proportion of students (58%).

Twenty-nine percent (29%) of young people engage in physical activity at a place designated for recreation, compared to only 19% of the adult population. This choice is more popular among men (33%, compared to 25% among women), among Western youths (33% and 34% in the Prairies and British Columbia respectively, compared to less than 26% in the Maritimes and Ontario) and among university graduates (38%).

As for the other places suggested, they are reported by 20% of young people (parks, 19%; commercial establishments and private clubs, 14%; workplace, 10%). Parks and the workplace draw a greater proportion of men, Western and employed youths. On the other hand, commercial establishments and private clubs are chosen more by 20-24 year-olds, Western and employed youths, youths who have not completed their post-secondary studies, and university graduates.

The place of exercise is a critical variable in maintaining the habit of exercise. Home and outdoors best promote the maintenance of the habit as they will normally continue to remain accessible. On the other hand, youths who exercise at school, college or university are more likely to abandon the habit when their studies are over. While university graduates seem to prefer this location, it is not known what proportion of them are still studying. In their case, entry into the labour market could have a considerable effect on the accessibility of the sports facilities since the employed clearly make less use of this location.

The time of exercise is another variable likely to influence maintenance of the habit. An activity that is engaged in every day of the week is more likely to survive changes in schedule. In this respect, the prospect is more optimistic for 15-24 year-olds. Indeed, the majority of them (62%) spread

their physical activities over the entire week, more than the 25 and over group (51%)[7] (see Table A-7).

Deviations from the national average for the various socio-demographic variables occur in isolated cases only. The youths of British Columbia engage in sports activities more over the entire week (69%), compared to 14% during weekdays only, while the unemployed do so the least. Sample size prevents us from determining with certainty the distribution of these young people between the other two options. The only known indicator is that a greater proportion of unemployed youths prefer weekdays only.

With whom do young people do these activities? This question enables us to determine whether leisure-time activities are used by young people as an opportunity for social encounters and, if so, who their favourite companions are. The figures confirm the trend noted in section 2.1 that young people use leisure time to be with people (24% spend the time alone), and prefer to be with friends (65%) rather than family (20%) (see Table A-8). In this regard, they differ from the adult population which is distributed about evenly among the three options: alone, 34%; with friends, 35%; and with relatives, 36%. Even though the proportions are relatively the same by age and sex, women and the 20-24 age group have a greater tendency to engage in physical activity with relatives than men and the younger 15-19 group.

The answers of the 15-24 year-olds vary little by region and milieu, but education and labour force status give rise to interesting variations:

- The least educated young people have clearly lower participation rates in physical activity with friends but have the highest participation rates for engaging in physical activity alone;

- Only 44% of youths not in the labour force engage in physical activity with friends (falling 21% below the national average) and 34% prefer relatives as companions (i.e. exceeding the national average by 14%);

- Students have the lowest participation rates for physical activity with relatives and have a tendency to prefer classmates (29%).

Compared to the 25-and-over population, young people engage in physical activity more for pleasure or fun or as a challenge, and less for health-related reasons such as to relax or reduce stress, because of a fitness specialist's advice for improving health in general, or because of doctor's orders for therapy or rehabilitation (see Table A-9). Young women are more interested in physical activity for esthetic reasons (to control weight or look better) and medical reasons (therapy, rehabilitation), while men are more attracted by challenge.

Although region, milieu and education cause departures from the national average, these do not affect the order of importance of the various reasons mentioned by young people. When we consider labour force status, however, the order of importance varies substantially among youths not in the labour force and unemployed youths. Youths not in the labour force prefer health-related reasons and least prefer the social, challenge and pleasure/fun aspects. The unemployed, in addition to health-related reasons, indicate more interest or desire to learn new things.

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[7] Due to the high percentage of non-response among the 25 and over group, interpretation of the results should be made with care.

2.3.3 Social Activities

Social activities refer to two types of leisure-time activities: visiting or talking to friends or relatives, which essentially meets the need for expression, and going out for entertainment, which involves the consumption of socio-cultural goods and services. This last type of activity will be discussed in greater detail in the next chapter.

During the reference week, the 15-24 year-olds spent a total of 16.0 hours on social activities, i.e. 11.3 hours visiting and talking to friends or relatives, and 4.7 hours going out (see Table 2.4). They clearly outdo the adult population which spent 10.5 hours on these activities, three quarters of which was visiting and talking (7.8 hours) and the rest going out (2.7 hours). The young also have higher participation rates than adults in these two activities, i.e. 94% for visits and 86% for going out, compared to 92% and 69% respectively.

Participation rates for visits and conversations among youths do not vary significantly for all the socio-demographic indicators. For going out, participation rates are lower among Allophones (M.T. and L.S.H.) and bilingual (L.S.H.) persons. The most striking differences occur under education where there seems to be a direct relationship between level of education and participation rate.

Unlike participation rates, the time devoted to these two types of activities shows greater variations for certain socio-demographic variables:

- Young Quebecers spend relatively less time on these two activities whereas young Westerners (Prairies and British Columbia) have a tendency to devote more time to them;

- Married youths report less time than the others for these two activities; young people in the "other" marital status category compensate for their least time devoted to going out by spending the most time on visits and conversations;

- Francophones (M.T. and L.S.H.) and Allophones (M.T. and L.S.H.) spend the least time on visits and conversations; among bilingual persons, those under the category "mother tongue" have a tendency to spend more time going out while those under the category "language spoken at home" devote less time;

- The least educated young people report only 12.8 hours for these activities (9.6 hours for visits and conversations, 3.2 hours for going out), falling clearly below the national average of 16.0 hours.

- Unemployed youths devote 18.0 hours to these activities, i.e. 12.5 hours for visits and conversations, and 5.5 hours for going out.

2.3.4 Relaxing, Reflecting, Resting and Planning

These activities refer to pastimes which appear to be fundamentally different from one another. Indeed, while relaxing and resting are passive activities which essentially serve to regenerate energy for reuse on productive

TABLE 2.4: Social activities[1] (average number of hours in the reference week and rates (%) of participation in the reference year) by age and sex, and for the 15-24 age group, by selected characteristics, Canada, 1978

Characteristic	Visiting and talking		Going out	
	Hours	Rate	Hours	Rate
Age and Sex				
Both sexes				
15-19 years	8.7	92.6	3.2	73.7
20-24 years	12.2	93.7	5.0	84.3
15-24 years	10.4	95.1	4.4	87.8
25 years & over	11.3	94.4	4.7	86.0
	7.8	91.9	2.7	69.4
Men				
15-19 years	8.2	92.2	3.2	73.9
20-24 years	11.6	92.8	4.7	81.7
15-24 years	10.0	94.7	4.6	88.4
25 years & over	10.8	93.8	4.6	84.9
	7.3	91.6	2.7	69.8
Women				
15-19 years	9.2	92.9	3.2	73.6
20-24 years	12.8	94.7	5.3	87.0
15-24 years	10.8	95.4	4.1	87.3
25 years & over	11.8	95.1	4.7	87.1
	8.3	92.2	2.7	69.0
Total (15-24 yrs)	11.3	94.4	4.7	86.0
Region				
Maritimes	11.4	93.2	4.8	83.7
Quebec	9.5	90.4	4.1	81.2
Ontario	11.8	96.2	4.9	86.6
Prairies	12.6	97.0	5.1	90.7
British Columbia	12.6	96.4	4.8	92.2
Environment				
Urban	11.3	94.3	4.8	87.3
Rural	11.6	94.7	4.1	80.8
Marital Status				
Single	11.7	93.7	5.1	85.7
Married	10.1	96.4	3.5	86.8
Other	12.9	92.9	3.5	90.7
Mother Tongue (M.T.)				
English	12.2	96.3	4.8	88.8
French	9.6	89.7	4.2	80.4
English and French	12.3	97.5	5.4	92.1
Other	9.6	93.2	4.7	78.5
Language Spoken at Home (L.S.H.)				
English	12.1	96.5	4.9	89.1
French	9.6	90.2	4.2	81.1
English and French	10.7	88.0	3.8	67.8
Other	9.9	88.5	4.9	73.5
Education				
0-8 years	9.6	88.5	3.2	66.7
9-13 years	11.8	94.2	4.7	84.5
Some post-sec	11.0	95.5	5.3	93.8
Certificate/diploma	9.7	97.1	4.8	94.6
Labour Force Status				
Not in labour force	11.4	90.6	3.8	74.5
Unemployed	12.5	95.3	5.5	83.4
Employed	11.0	94.9	4.8	88.6
Student	11.4	94.7	4.6	86.9

[1] See Appendix 1, question 10, for the content of each item.

Source: Statistics Canada, Survey of Leisure-time Activities, 1978. Special compilations.

activities (including work), the other two, reflecting and planning, require an intellectual effort and constitute productive activities in themselves despite the fact that they do not involve the expenditure of intense physical energy. These activities, which are different from daydreaming, represent a certain degree of intellectual maturity on the part of the individuals who engage in them. It is unfortunate that the questionnaire does not enable us to draw clear distinctions between them.

Notwithstanding these observations, this type of activity is very attractive to young people (see Table 2.5). Indeed, 84% of 15-24 year-olds engaged in these activities during the reference year, and this group devoted 7.3 hours to them during the reference week. Age (including the population 25 and over), sex and milieu cause no significant deviation from the national average. However, it is interesting to note that:

- Young Quebecers are the least interested in this type of activity, as the two indicators show;
- Young people in the "other" marital status category exceed the national average by more than three hours with respect to time devoted to these activities;
- Francophones (M.T. and L.S.H.) show the least interest, again as shown by the two indicators;
- There is a direct relationship between education and participation in these activities (the higher the level of education, the higher the participation rate);
- The unemployed devote two hours more than the national average to these activities.

2.4 Temporal Variations

Some of the activities covered in the 1978 survey were also the subject of a previous survey (physical activity in 1976, the others in 1975). It is therefore possible to make comparisons in time. Figure 2.3 illustrates these comparisons for the 15-24 year-olds.

Participation rates for most of the activities increased since observation began in 1975 or 1976. Watching television and formal instruction are the only activities that remained stable. The most spectacular increase occurred in arts activities. Indeed, participation in visual art activities doubled in three years, from 23% to 46%, and participation in musical arts activities increased by more than 60% (21% in 1975, 34% in 1978). During that period, participation in hobbies increased by 40%, and reading increased in popularity by 20% among young people aged 15-24 (77% vs. 93%).

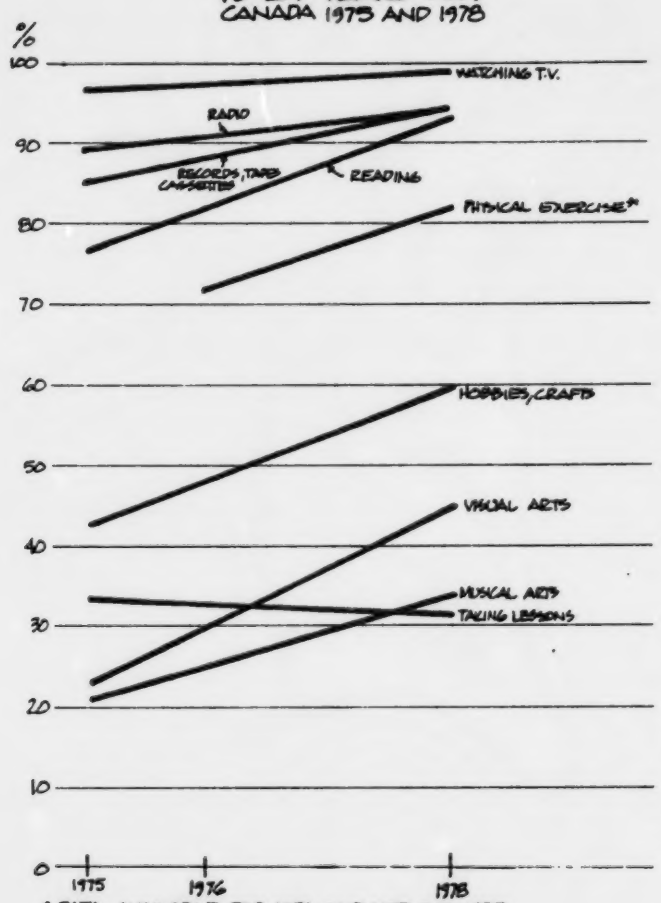
The other activities experienced less significant growth. Listening to the radio rose from 89% to 94% (a relative increase of 6%) whereas listening to records, tapes and cassettes was mentioned by 94% of the respondents in 1978, compared to 85% in 1975 (a relative increase of 11%). The increase observed in physical activity cannot be compared to the others since the base year was different for this type of activity. However, the increase of 14% over two years is significant.

TABLE 2.5: Relaxing, reflecting, resting and planning (average number of hours in the reference week and rates (%) of participation in the reference year) by age and sex, and for the 15-24 age group, by selected characteristics, Canada, 1978

Characteristic	Relaxing, reflecting, resting and planning	
	Hours	Rate
Age and Sex		
Both sexes	7.2	80.7
15-19 years	7.2	83.0
20-24 years	7.4	85.6
15-24 years	**7.3**	**84.3**
25 years & over	7.1	79.4
Men	7.3	80.8
15-19 years	7.5	82.6
20-24 years	7.5	83.3
15-24 years	7.5	82.9
25 years & over	7.3	80.1
Women	7.0	80.5
15-19 years	6.8	83.5
20-24 years	7.2	87.9
15-24 years	7.0	85.6
25 years & over	7.0	78.7
Total (15-24 yrs)	**7.3**	**84.3**
Region		
Maritimes	7.7	83.3
Quebec	6.3	73.1
Ontario	7.7	87.8
Prairies	7.7	92.2
British Columbia	7.7	90.9
Environment		
Urban	7.3	84.9
Rural	7.2	81.6
Marital Status		
Single	7.1	83.3
Married	7.6	87.0
Other	10.5	84.2
Mother Tongue (M.T.)		
English	7.7	89.3
French	6.0	71.7
English and French	8.0	92.9
Other	7.5	80.3
Language Spoken at Home (L.S.H.)		
English	7.8	89.5
French	6.0	72.4
English and French	7.4	88.0
Other	7.1	74.6
Education		
0-8 years	7.0	64.6
9-13 years	7.4	83.5
Some post-sec	7.4	90.9
Certificate/diploma	7.1	88.6
Univ. degree	5.5	95.9
Labour Force Status		
Not in labour force	7.4	78.3
Unemployed	9.3	80.3
Employed	7.3	85.7
Student	6.9	85.1

Source: Statistics Canada, Survey of Leisure-Time Activities, 1978. Special compilations.

FIGURE 2.3 PARTICIPATION RATE IN CERTAIN LEISURE ACTIVITIES 15-24 YEARS OLD, CANADA 1975 AND 1978



* DATA AVAILABLE FOR 1976 AND NOT FOR 1975

SOURCE: TABLE A-10, APPENDIX 2

All in all, participation by 15-24 year-olds has increased since the first year of observation (1975 or 1976) in all leisure-time activities except watching television and formal instruction. This applies to the 15-19 age group as well as the 20-24 age group, and to women as well as men (see Table A-10). This phenomenon, however, is not limited to young people, as similar rates are observed among the adult population.

* * * * *

To summarize the participation of young people in leisure-time activities, they spend approximately 70 hours per week on leisure and nearly half of this time is devoted to media activities, nearly one quarter to social activities, less than 20% to participatory activities, and approximately 10% to relaxing, reflecting, resting or planning. The lowest participation rates are in participatory activities, which range between 32% and 82%, depending on the activity, whereas participation rates in the other types of activities range between 84% and 98%.

It would seem that advancing age goes hand in hand with declining levels of participation (rates and number of hours), particularly in participatory and social activities. Sex and milieu have no significant impact on these indicators but region and language do (young Quebecers have lower participation levels in a variety of activities, and Francophones and Allophones tend to have lower participation levels in general). From the occupational standpoint, students are more interested in participatory activities, whereas the unemployed are more involved in the other types of activities. The profile is not as clear when we consider marital status: each youth category seems to prefer or dislike specific types of activities. As far as education is concerned, in most cases, the higher the level of education, the higher the rate of participation.

3. CONSUMPTION OF CULTURAL AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES

The activities discussed in this chapter essentially involve the "consumption" of cultural goods or services as well as sports events. They imply an interest in this type of activity, an awareness of available socio-cultural goods and services, a participatory effort which can be substantial in some cases, and the financial ability to cover costs associated with many of these activities. Proximity of services or events is a major factor in the participation of people, young and old, although the latter have more mobility than young people. This factor can offset an otherwise true interest in an activity. We should therefore avoid hasty conclusions on youth culture based on participation in the activities discussed in this chapter. We will first present the results on visits to cultural establishments, followed by those on attendance at cultural or sports events. We will also consider temporal variations for selected activities. Finally, we will end this chapter with a brief discussion of youth interest in travel.

3.1 Visits to Cultural Establishments

Four cultural establishments were considered in the Survey of Leisure-Time Activities (Statistics Canada, 1978). As shown in Table 3.1, frequency of visits to these establishments varies among young people. Bookstores and public libraries have the highest participation rates among young people 15 to 24 years of age, i.e. 67% and 52% respectively. The popularity of general or maritime museums and art galleries or art museums is clearly lower (38% and 24% respectively). Participation rates are higher among 15-24 year-olds than among the population 25 and over. On the other hand, participation rates among the youths themselves tend to be higher among the 20-24 age group, except for public libraries which are frequented more by the 15-19 group.

While sex does not give rise to any significant variations in participation rates, other socio-demographic variables do:

- Region determines two distinct groups regarding visits to these establishments: the Maritimes and Quebec, where participation rates are below the national rates, and Ontario, the Prairies and British Columbia, where they are above the national rates;

- Rural areas have lower participation rates than urban areas in respect of the four establishments;

- Young people in the "other" marital status category visit these establishments less than the others;

- Anglophones (M.T. and L.S.H.) have participation rates above the national rates while Francophones (M.T. and L.S.H.) have below-average rates for the four establishments. The rates of bilingual M.T. persons are close to the national rates but those of bilingual L.S.H. persons fall below the national levels;

- There is a positive correlation between education and frequency of visit to these establishments (the higher the level of education, the more visits);

- Students have high rates of visits to these establishments while persons not in the labour force and the unemployed tend to have lower rates.

TABLE 3.1: Rates (%) of visit to cultural establishments[1] in the reference year, by age and sex, and for the 15-24 age group, by selected characteristics, Canada, 1978

Characteristic	Museum (other than art museum)	Art Gallery or art museum	Public library	Bookstore
Age and Sex				
Both sexes	31.2	21.4	36.9	55.2
15-19 years	37.2	21.6	59.4	65.0
20-24 years	38.3	25.9	43.6	69.9
15-24 years	**37.7**	**23.7**	**51.7**	**67.4**
25 years & over	28.8	20.5	31.7	50.9
Men	31.1	20.1	34.1	51.2
15-19 years	36.2	19.5	54.9	59.2
20-24 years	36.4	23.3	40.8	67.2
15-24 years	36.3	21.3	48.1	63.1
25 years & over	29.2	19.6	29.0	46.9
Women	31.2	22.6	39.6	59.1
15-19 years	38.2	23.7	64.0	71.0
20-24 years	40.1	28.6	46.4	72.6
15-24 years	39.1	26.1	55.4	71.8
25 years & over	28.5	21.4	34.2	54.8
Total (15-24 yrs)	**37.7**	**23.7**	**51.7**	**67.4**
Region				
Maritimes	29.9	14.9	41.3	58.8
Quebec	25.6	17.6	37.6	54.9
Ontario	42.9	26.7	63.1	74.5
Prairies	45.5	30.4	52.6	73.3
British Columbia	49.0	28.3	60.3	76.8
Environment				
Urban	39.9	25.9	54.6	70.5
Rural	28.2	14.5	39.1	54.1
Marital Status				
Single	37.7	24.1	56.2	68.5
Married	38.3	22.8	38.9	64.5
Other	25.1	12.7	39.3	55.3
Mother Tongue (M.T.)				
English	42.9	26.4	57.6	73.8
French	24.4	15.7	35.9	51.1
English and French	39.4	29.3	55.6	73.6
Other	39.4	25.5	54.5	66.1
Language Spoken at Home (L.S.H.)				
English	42.3	26.3	57.4	74.5
French	26.6	18.0	37.8	52.1
English and French	24.9	14.2	24.8	39.1
Other	37.8	21.4	54.2	58.8
Education				
0-8 years	17.6	7.2	28.5	36.2
9-13 years	35.4	20.0	49.2	63.6
Some post-sec	46.4	35.1	67.4	84.7
Certificate/diploma	43.3	32.6	51.6	79.1
Univ. degree	65.6	50.4	72.2	92.8
Labour Force Status				
Not in labour force	20.1	7.8	27.8	45.2
Unemployed	28.6	18.0	37.3	56.8
Employed	38.0	25.3	39.1	68.2
Student	43.2	27.0	71.4	73.7

[1] See Appendix 1. question 12. for the content of each item.

Source: Statistics Canada, Survey of Leisure-Time Activities, 1978. Special compilations.

Cultural interest in museums, art galleries, libraries and bookstores seems to depend on certain individual characteristics. While it is understandable that education and labour force status are determining factors in the interest raised by these establishments, it is more difficult to explain the influence of the other variables. The cultural values conveyed among Anglophones, as opposed to Francophones, could heighten interest in establishing or using such services. Differences in socio-economic status could also be argued. As for region and milieu, an obvious explanation is the inadequacy of infrastructures. The distribution of the population over vast areas can limit the availability of such services to all communities.

3.2 Attendance at Cultural or Sports Events

Three of the seven events suggested in the survey involved the participation of at least 50% of 15-24 year-olds during the reference year (see Table 3.2). They are movies shown in commercial theatres (81%), sports events (68%) and popular music concerts (52%). Furthermore, more than 30% of the young people visited a zoo, circus, or other live performance (41%), attended an art or craft fair or festival (35%) or a live theatre performance (31%). Finally, classical performances (orchestral concert, opera, ballet, etc.) drew the fewest young people in the 15-24 age group, with 22%.

Generally speaking, young people 15 to 24 years of age have higher participation rates than their elders (see figure 3.1). The largest differences occur in attendance at sports events, films shown in commercial theatres and attendance at non-classical music concerts. These activities are the most popular among young people but have less than a 50% participation rate among the population 25 and over. Among the youths themselves, participation in these events tends to be higher among the 15-19 age group, except for attendance at fairs or festivals which attracts a much greater proportion of 20-24 year-olds.

Women also have higher participation rates in most of these events, except for non-classical music concerts and sports events. Only three activities show significant differences between men and women: theatre performances, classical music concerts, and fairs and festivals.

Region, like milieu, can greatly influence participation in cultural and sports activities depending on whether or not it has the socio-cultural infrastructure to hold these events. Indeed, the proximity of theatres and existence of college or professional sports teams in a community promote participation in these activities. Accordingly, young rural dwellers attend fewer theatre performances and concerts, both classical and non-classical, than urban dwellers. Maritime youths have a tendency to attend fewer of these events. Quebec youths attend fewer non-classical music concerts. On the other hand, some activities involve substantial proportions of youths in the other regions. For example, non-classical music concerts are attended by approximately 60% of young Ontarians and British Columbians. Approximately one quarter of Ontarians attended classical concerts during the reference year. Fairs and festivals, as well as zoos and circuses, drew more young Westerners (Prairies and British Columbia). Finally, it should be noted that participation rates are constant between the Canadian regions and by milieu for movies shown in commercial theatres and sports events.

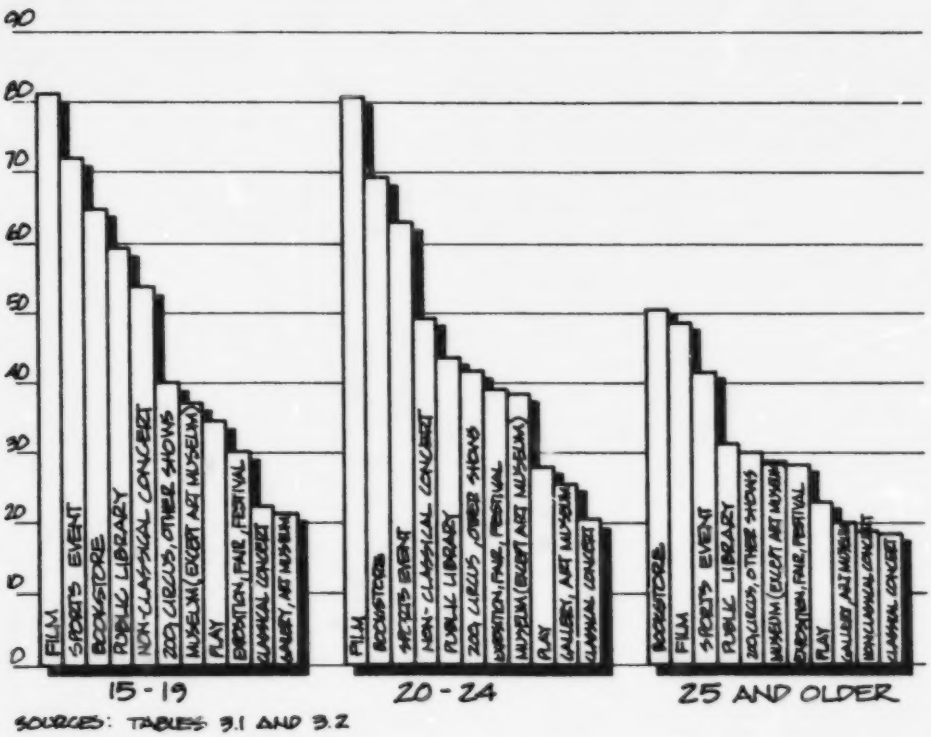
TABLE 3.2: Rates (%) of attendance at cultural or sports events[1] in the reference year, by age and sex, and for the 15-24 age group, by selected characteristics, Canada, 1978

Characteristic	Movie in a commercial theatre	Theatre performance	Non classical music performance or concert	Classical music performance or recital	Sports events	Art or craft fair or festival	Zoo, circus or other live performance
Age and Sex							
Both sexes	57.1	25.5	27.3	19.3	48.5	30.2	33.0
15-19 years	81.6	34.5	54.1	22.9	72.5	30.3	40.3
20-24 years	80.9	28.0	49.4	20.7	63.3	38.9	42.2
15-24 years	**81.3**	**31.3**	**51.8**	**21.8**	**68.0**	**34.5**	**41.2**
25 years & over	48.6	23.5	18.6	18.5	41.6	28.6	30.2
Men	58.6	22.0	28.0	16.5	55.1	24.7	31.8
15-19 years	80.2	28.0	54.6	20.0	75.1	24.5	38.0
20-24 years	81.8	23.6	52.9	17.6	69.0	32.5	38.5
15-24 years	81.0	25.9	53.8	18.9	72.1	28.4	38.3
25 years & over	50.4	20.6	18.5	15.6	48.9	23.4	29.4
Women	55.7	28.9	26.6	22.1	42.1	35.4	34.2
15-19 years	82.9	41.2	53.6	25.9	69.8	36.3	42.6
20-24 years	80.1	32.4	46.0	23.9	57.4	45.4	45.9
15-24 years	81.5	36.9	49.8	24.9	63.7	40.8	44.2
25 years & over	47.0	26.2	18.7	21.1	34.7	33.6	30.9
Total (15-24 yrs)	**81.3**	**31.3**	**51.8**	**21.8**	**68.0**	**34.5**	**41.2**
Region							
Maritimes	76.4	27.5	47.8	17.0	63.9	25.5	30.9
Quebec	74.3	30.4	41.8	21.6	61.8	35.4	37.2
Ontario	84.6	33.5	57.8	24.3	71.5	33.5	40.1
Prairies	87.6	31.6	55.3	21.5	74.4	36.1	50.5
British Columbia	83.5	30.0	58.0	19.6	66.4	42.0	51.0
Environment							
Urban	83.0	32.6	53.7	23.1	67.9	35.2	41.9
Rural	73.9	25.8	43.7	16.3	68.1	31.8	38.3
Marital Status							
Single	82.0	34.1	56.0	23.7	71.8	34.4	40.4
Married	79.3	23.6	39.6	16.7	56.8	35.1	43.2
Other	73.2	23.5	51.9	15.7	65.7	30.3	47.5
Mother Tongue (M.T.)							
English	84.8	31.3	56.5	21.2	70.1	34.4	42.1
French	74.9	29.6	43.3	22.7	63.9	36.4	38.0
English and French	79.6	44.3	46.4	23.8	70.6	37.5	39.5
Other	75.1	28.7	46.3	22.8	62.1	26.5	46.2
Language Spoken at Home (L.S.H.)							
English	85.0	31.7	56.7	21.8	70.9	33.8	42.5
French	75.0	32.1	42.3	22.0	63.8	38.9	38.4
English and French	59.3	22.8	40.4	21.0	64.0	22.9	28.4
Other	66.8	24.1	38.3	22.2	50.3	21.6	41.3
Education							
0-8 years	59.2	15.0	29.2	13.7	48.6	11.6	28.8
9-13 years	79.6	28.3	49.2	18.3	69.0	30.0	40.0
Some post-sec	88.5	41.7	61.9	34.1	71.5	47.9	45.2
Certificate/diploma	92.8	36.9	64.5	25.3	70.0	53.6	48.3
Univ. degree	94.1	57.2	68.2	41.1	66.8	57.9	51.5
Labour Force Status							
Not in labour force	66.1	13.8	27.1	9.5	44.2	18.4	31.7
Unemployed	77.2	17.4	48.1	14.8	61.8	27.2	34.9
Employed	84.0	27.0	51.5	20.6	67.4	38.6	43.8
Student	83.1	41.9	58.8	27.2	75.3	35.9	42.2

[1] See Appendix 1, question 12, for the content of each item.

Source: Statistics Canada, Survey of Leisure-Time Activities, 1978. Special compilations.

FIGURE 3.1 PARTICIPATION RATE IN CULTURAL OR SPORTS ACTIVITIES DURING THE REFERENCE YEAR BY AGE, CANADA, 1978.



SOURCES: TABLES 3.1 AND 3.2

Following are highlights for the other variables:

- Young married persons attend in smaller proportion many of these events: theatre performances, classical and non-classical concerts, sports events; young widowed, divorced or separated persons have lower participation rates in theatre performances, classical concerts and fairs, but set records for visits to zoos and circuses, etc.;

- Under mother tongue only, we see no significant differences between the various linguistic categories for attendance at movies, classical concerts and sports events; however, young bilingual persons seem fond of theatre performances (44% compared to the national average of 31%), and Allophones seem to neglect fairs in favour of zoos and circuses, etc.;

- On the other hand, if we focus on language spoken at home, rates are constant only for classical concerts; there are significant deviations from the national average under two linguistic categories; bilingual persons and Allophones tend to have lower participation rates in activities of this type;

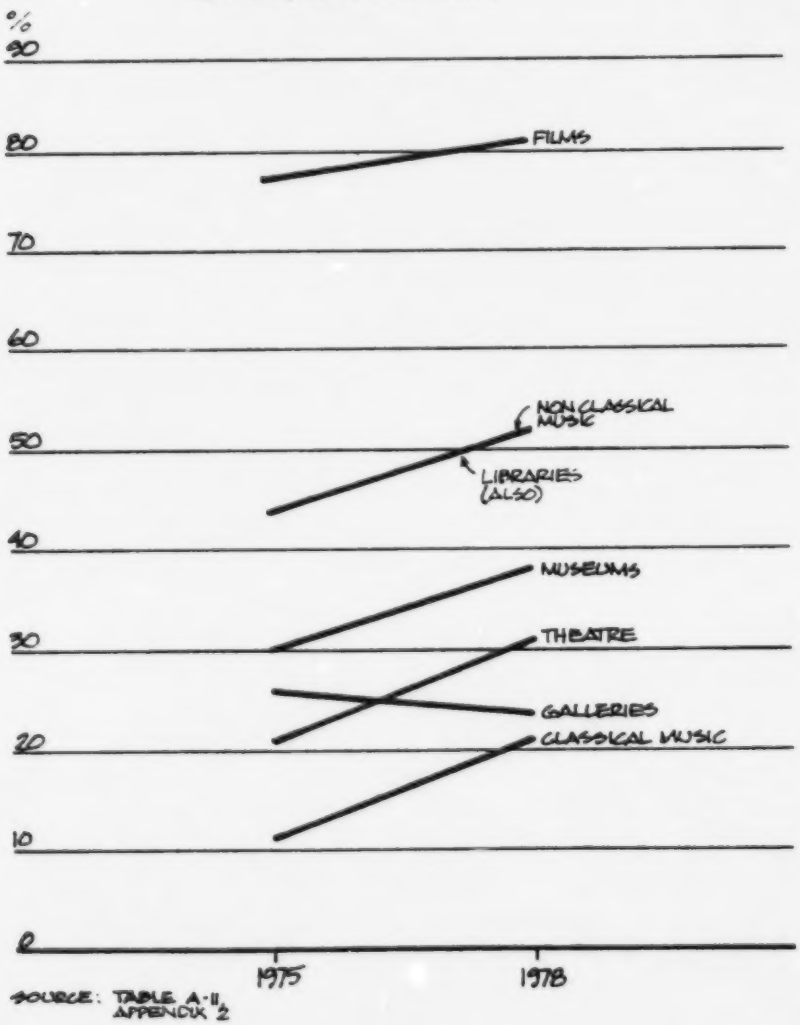
- Education, again, is directly associated with rates of attendance: higher education corresponds to higher participation rates in all activities except sports events;

- Youths not in the labour force have lower participation rates in all the activities and unemployed youths in many activities (theatre, classical music, fairs, zoos); employed youths deviate from the national rate only with respect to fairs (4% above the Canadian rate); students tend to have higher participation rates than the others across the board.

3.3 Temporal Variations

Participation rates for some of the activities suggested in the 1978 survey are available for the year 1975. Since the two surveys cover identical periods of time, i.e. the previous twelve months, it is possible to compare results. These are shown in Figure 3.2.

FIGURE 3.2 PARTICIPATION RATE IN CULTURAL OR SPORTS ACTIVITIES DURING THE REFERENCE YEAR, 15-24, CANADA, 1975 AND 1978



SOURCE: TABLE A-II, APPENDIX 2

Generally speaking, youth participation in the activities mentioned has increased since 1975. However, there are some variations in certain activities. For example, attendance at movies has changed little (a relative increase of 6%). Changes have been moderate with respect to three other activities: attendance at non-classical music performances or recitals (a relative increase of 20%), visits to public libraries (relative increase of 22%), and visits to general museums (a relative increase of 26%). However, there have been significant changes in attendance at two activities: theatre performances rose in popularity by 50% between 1975 and 1978, and attendance at classical music performances or recitals doubled during this period. Visits to art galleries and museums are the only activities which declined during the reference period, and the decrease was relatively small (8%).

Similar increases are also observed in the participation of the population 25 years of age and over. It would therefore appear that the entire Canadian population experienced a growing interest in activities of this type during the period 1975-1978.

3.4 Travel

Travel has great appeal among young people. Indeed, the Goldfarb survey (1983) indicates that 80% of the 15-24 year-olds consider travelling to be a moderately important to very important goal in their life (see Table A-1). This proportion is higher in British Columbia (87%) and lower in Ontario (77%) and the Maritimes (75%). Travelling seems to appeal to men as much as women and to the younger 15-19 age group as much as the 20-24 group. However, unemployed youths and youths not in labour force show much less interest, i.e. 73% and 70% respectively.

In April 1983, approximately 50% of the 18-24 year-olds interviewed by Crop indicated their intention to spend more than $150 on vacation or travel within the next six months (see Table A-2). This item got the highest percentage of the three items suggested in the questionnaire. Even though the question combines two activities which are not necessarily comparable, the result provides an indication of the importance young people attach to travel in their financial planning.

The Crop survey conducted in September 1983 deals specifically with travel. Table 3.3 shows data on trips made and planned. There is no significant difference in the percentage of young people 18-24 years of age and that of the population 25 and over who made a trip during the previous six months (approximately 45% and 50% respectively) and who planned to take at least one trip within the next six months (approximately 34% and 31% respectively). The figures are slightly lower for young people (especially young men) with respect to trips made, but slightly higher (especially for young women) with respect to trips planned. However, these differences are negligible.

Travelling seems to be more popular in the spring and summer than during the fall and winter. Indeed, rates increase by 6% among young men and 16% among young women during the period March to August inclusive, compared to the period September to February inclusive.

TABLE 3.3: Percentage of people who took one or more vacation(s) or pleasure trip(s) of four nights or more in the past six months[1], or who plan to do so in the next six months[2], by age and sex, Canada, September 1983.

	Total		18-24 years		25 years & over	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
At least one in the past 6 months	48	49	42	47	50	49
At least one in the next 6 months	34	27	36	31	34	27

[1] This semester covers the period March to August inclusively.
[2] This semester covers the period September to February inclusively.

Source: The Crop Report, 83-5, questions 54 and 57. Special compilations.

Young people choose to travel in Canada first. Indeed three quarters of the youths who travelled during the previous six months chose a Canadian destination (see Table 3.4). These travels were within the region of residence for 46% of men and 60% of women. However, destinations tend to vary with the semester. During the semester which includes the winter months, trips to Canadian destinations drop in popularity (around 50%) in favour of American destinations (approximately 30% of trips planned) or other destinations abroad (approximately 15% of plans). The destinations chosen by young people differ very little from those planned by the adult population. However, the latter travelled relatively less within Canada and more to the United States than the 18-24 year-olds during the six months preceding the survey.

* * * * *

In summary, the interest of 15-24 year-olds in socio-cultural activities varies greatly by activity. Less than 25% of the youths attended an art gallery or museum, or a classical concert during the reference year. At the other end of the scale, four out of five attended a movie shown by a commercial theatre. More than two thirds visited a bookstore or attended a sports event, and approximately one youth in two visited a library or attended a non-classical concert. The other activities recorded rates of participation ranging from 31% (for theatre performances) to 41% (for visits to zoos, circuses, etc.).

Participation generally decreases with advancing age and is higher among women. As for region, Maritime and Quebec youths tend to have lower participation rates in many activities. Ontario youths show more interest in concerts and Western youths make more visits to zoos and fairs. Participation is generally lower in rural areas.

Participation among students is clearly higher while that of unemployed youths and youths not in the labour force tends to be lower. Married, widowed, divorced or separated youths tend to have lower participation rates inmany activities. Finally, higher education is generally associated with higher participation.

As for travelling, it is very popular among the 18-24 year-olds and they tend to favour Canadian destinations.

TABLE 3.4: Destination of longest vacation or pleasure trip taken in the past six months, or planned in the next six months, by age and sex, Canada, September 1983.

Destination		18-24 years		25 years & over	
		Men	Women	Men	Women
Canada Only	made	75	76	60	66
	planned	54	49	47	46
. Region of residence	made	46	60	47	48
	planned	37	28	35	29
. Other region	made	29	16	13	18
	planned	17	21	12	17
Canada and United States	made	3	5	5	4
	planned	2	2	2	1
United States only	made	17	11	25	23
	planned	29	28	30	33
Elsewhere abroad	made	6	7	10	9
	planned	13	16	17	17

Source: The Crop Report, 83-5, questions 55 and 58. Special compilations.

4. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

There are various ways of assuming one's social responsibilities, from giving neighbours a helping hand, signing a petition for the development of a neighbourhood park, to doing volunteer work for a consumer organization, etc. All these activities contribute to improving the quality of life in the community and are generally referred to as "voluntary action".

The gesture made stems from the perception of an interest, need or problem, accompanied by an awareness of one's own responsibility in the circumstances and one's ability to implement solutions, alone or with others moved by the same objectives. The resulting activity may have its own goal or value, in which case it qualifies as "expressive" as are the organizations within which it is performed (sports clubs, theatrical companies, choir groups, etc.). The activity may also pursue extrinsic goals such as fund raising, the provision of a service, social change, etc. Many organizations pursue such instrumental objectives, for example, charities, interest groups, The United Way, etc.

As stated by the National Advisory Council on Voluntary Action (1977), voluntary action engages the volunteer in a valuable learning experience. "In the interaction within his own association and between it and society, he comes to understand the practical meaning of the continuing social dialectic between such values as autonomy and social solidarity, self-fulfillment and a recognition of one's own interdependence with one's fellows" (People in Action, p. 29).

Voluntary action serves to initiate youths who engage in it into the role of full member of society they will be assuming in their adult life. Even though most young people get involved in theatre or art groups (as we will see in sections 4.2 and 4.3), associational life provides an opportunity to share common interests, learn and develop the habit of personal and social participation and responsibility, a habit they tend to maintain in adulthood (Snyder, 1970). These groups also fill a need to develop meaningful relationships outside the family and thus promote the integration of young people in a broader social framework. These relationships help youths define their identity through confrontation with other people's ideas and through the feedback they receive on their personality and behavior, which helps them evaluate their actions and take corrective measures as necessary.

In this chapter, we will describe the extent to which young Canadians get involved in voluntary groups, based on two indicators: membership and actual involvement in voluntary organizations. We are aware that we are neglecting the aspect of informal voluntary action which does not take place in organized groups and which is probably very important among young people. The surveys consulted do not provide any data on this subject. First, let us look at how young people perceive voluntary work and volunteers.

4.1 Attitudes Regarding Voluntary Action

The attitudes of young people regarding voluntary action paint a rather pessimistic picture. According to 64% of the young people 18-24 years of age who responded to the Gallup poll (1982), people today are less willing to help each other than they were 10 years ago (Table A-12). This percentage rises to

68% among the 25 and over population. It would appear that Canadians, especially young people, perceive their social environment as being less supportive than it used to be. While the older population has reference points from which to make a judgment, the 18-24 year-olds have to compare the present with a time when they were relatively young (8-14 years old). Since the percentages for the two groups are very similar, we may be witnessing a transference of opinion from the older group to the younger group. Also, we have to wonder whether there really is a difference or whether it is the result of the tendency that we have to remember the past as being better than it was.

Nevertheless, the majority of young people (63%) think that charities will always be necessary no matter what the government does. They clearly outvote those who think that the work of charities goes hand in hand with government action (21%) and those who believe that the presence of charities means that government does not have to fulfill its social responsibilities (11%). Sixty-nine percent of young people think that charities and voluntary organizations should be free from government control (see Table A-13), probably due to the perception that charities have a special mission. Young people also have a very positive opinion of volunteers. Seventy-two percent (72%) of them think that those who do voluntary or charitable work are unselfish and dedicated people, while 17% think that volunteers have more their own problems in mind than the problems of the people they are tying to help, and only 5% believe that volunteers are usually well-meaning but misguided do-gooders who create more problems than they solve. These opinions are shared by the older population in relatively similar proportions.

Consumer groups offer another means of sounding the opinions of young people on a certain type of voluntary organization. Even though some of them enjoy the logistical support of permanent paid employees, the objectives which led to the creation of these pressure groups, and their method of operation based on substantial voluntary participation, qualify them as voluntary organizations. It is interesting to note that an appreciable proportion of 18-24 year-olds give these groups credit for solving such problems as inflation (11% and 16% of men and women respectively) and pollution (21% and 16% of men and women respectively). In this respect, they rank third behind the two levels of government (Crop, 1983; Table A-25).

Are young people willing to do volunteer work? Among the 15-24 year-olds reached by the Goldfarb survey (1983), 62% indicated that doing volunteer work is a very important or moderately important goal in their life (see Table A-1). Volunteer work ranks in tenth place on the list of goals or aspirations of 15-24 year-olds (out of eleven). This percentage is lower among Ontarians (56%) but higher among the young people of Quebec (68%) and the Maritimes (67%). Students (66%) and young women (69%) have a tendency to attach more importance to participating in volunteer activities. Among the unemployed youths surveyed by Goldfarb (1983), 63% would be willing to do volunteer work in order to get some experience and improve their chances of getting a job (see Table A-14). Of the eight alternatives suggested in the questionnaire, this option ranked fifth. It received more support from Maritime youths (76%) and Prairie youths (76%) as well as from women (78%), but is less attractive to British Columbian youths (52%) and men (53%).

Finally, in the event that the working week were shortened, only 16% of young people 18-24 years of age interviewed by Gallup (1982) would use the spare time to do something for their community, e.g. voluntary work, local

politics, the church, etc. (see Table A-15). This item received the least support from young people. However, 24% of respondents 25 years of age and over would be interested in devoting time to a community organization and this item ranked fourth in order of preference among the older population.

4.2 Membership in Voluntary Organizations

Membership in a voluntary group is the first step to formal community involvement. It demonstrates a minimal interest in associational life and is a prerequisite to active participation. Two recent surveys dealt with this subject. The results of the Gallup survey (1982) are shown in Table 4.1 and those of the Goldfarb survey (1983), in Table 4.2.

It should be noted that these two surveys are not comparable as the youth samples differ in age (18-24 year-olds for Gallup, and 15-24 year-olds for Goldfarb) and age has a definite impact on the types of organizations likely to attract young people. Also, whereas Goldfarb asks respondents to name organizations in which they are members, Gallup suggests a list of organizations and asks respondents to indicate whether or not they belong to any of them. The last method probably helps people to remember, thus the higher level of participation. Finally, the categories used in the two surveys do not cover the same organizations, which, in the case of a larger category, can inflate their rate of affiliation.

TABLE 4.1: Percentage of the population belonging to selected voluntary groups, by age, Canada, June 1982.

Group	Total	18-24 years	25 years & over
Charity concerned with the welfare of people	11.9	3.4	14.8
Educational or religious organization	31.6	23.0	34.5
Cultural or arts group	9.7	11.2	9.2
Labour union	11.1	10.6	11.3
Political party or group	5.3	3.7	5.8
Organization concerned with human rights at home and abroad	2.9	1.2	3.4
Conservation, environmentalist or animal welfare group	4.7	4.0	4.9
Youth work (e.g. scouts, guides, youth clubs, etc.)	9.8	10.9	9.4
Consumer group	1.3	0.6	1.5
Professional association	11.1	3.7	13.6
None of these	43.4	55.3	39.3

Source: CARA surveys, Gallup, 1982. Special compilations.

In the Gallup poll (1982), the highest rate of affiliation among 18-24 year-olds was with churches or religious organizations (23%), followed by educational or arts groups, youth groups and labour unions (at 11% each). Trailing behind are environmentalist groups, professional associations and political parties or groups (each with 4%), and charities (3%). Approximately 55% of the 18-24 year-old respondents do not belong to any of the organizations mentioned in the questionnaire.

Among the population 25 and over, only 39% do not belong to any of these organizations. Also, while churches or religious organizations hold first place with 35% of respondents, the order of popularity of the other voluntary groups is very different. Charities take second place (15%), followed closely by professional associations (14%) and labour unions (11%). These are followed by youth organizations and cultural or arts groups at 9% each. Political parties or groups (6%), environmentalist groups (5%) and organizations concerned with human rights (3%) are at the bottom of the list. This last type of organization attracts only 1% of young people. The least popular groups among both 18-24 year-olds and adults 25 and over are consumer groups (approximately 1%).

Three conclusions can be drawn from these results. First, young people belong to voluntary groups in smaller proportions than their elders. Second, there is a tendency among joiners 25 and over to join several organizations, as confirmed by the high participation rates in many organizations, a tendency that is not observed among young people. Finally, the type of affiliation sought is not the same among young and older people. Young people prefer artistically oriented groups whereas their elders prefer service organizations. The fact that a greater proportion of adults 25 and over are employed in a profession or trade sometimes limits them to membership in a labour union or professional association. While there is practically no difference in labour union membership between 18-24 year-olds and their elders, there is a large difference in professional association membership: the population 25 and over has a rate of affiliation four times greater than that of the younger group.

Affiliation rates in the Goldfarb survey (1983) are lower than in the Gallup poll (1982). Only one type of organization draws more than 10% of young people aged 15-24: sports clubs with 16%. Religious organizations come in second place with 8%. The other categories attract less than 4% of respondents. Also, 62% of young people indicate no membership in any organization.

Associational participation seems to be more popular and diverse among Prairie youths. Rates of affiliation there are clearly above the national average for all categories of association. Quebec youths have the lowest affiliation rates but they show the most interest in theatre or arts groups and special service groups (rape crisis centres, distress lines, etc.). Religious organizations have quite a strong membership in english Canada (at least 10% of young people in each province), but less than 1% in Quebec. Also, Maritime youths join charities, student federations and human rights organizations in greater proportions.

As in the case of leisure-time activities (see Chapters 2 and 3), the higher levels of participation by students are observed again with respect to associational membership. Affiliation rates of students are higher than those of the other youths. Indeed, only 55% of students do not belong to any organization while on the other hand, 77% of youths not in the labour force say they do not belong to any group.

TABLE 4.2: Percentage of respondents aged 15-24 who belong to selected voluntary groups, by selected characteristics, Canada, May 1983

Voluntary group	Total	Region					Labour Force Status				Sex		Age	
		Mar.	Que.	Ont.	Prair.	B.C.	Stud.	Empl.	Unempl.	Not in labour force	M	W	15-19	20-24
Charity that provides assistance to disadvantaged people (e.g. United Way, Salvation Army)	1.5	4.9	-	-	3.4	-	-	2.9	-	1.4	2.3	-	-	2.2
Conservationist/environmentalist group	-	-	-	-	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Church or religious organization	8.1	10.4	-	9.5	13.6	10.5	9.0	8.1	6.4	6.4	6.0	10.2	8.1	8.0
Sports club	15.8	12.8	17.1	14.6	19.8	12.4	20.4	16.2	9.3	6.0	21.2	10.3	16.2	15.4
Student federation	3.8	4.3	3.4	4.1	4.5	2.5	9.2	-	2.2	-	3.5	4.2	5.0	2.8
Organization concerned with human rights	1.0	2.1	-	-	1.5	1.5	1.2	-	-	1.3	-	1.5	-	1.1
Youth-serving agency or club (YMCA-YWCA)	2.2	3.0	1.7	2.3	3.4	1.0	2.9	2.1	-	1.9	1.9	2.6	2.7	1.8
Agency or home for unwed mothers, rape crisis centre, distress line	1.0	1.0	2.3	-	-	-	1.6	-	-	-	-	1.5	-	1.3
Theatre or arts group	3.4	3.1	6.4	1.7	3.9	1.5	3.2	4.1	3.5	1.5	3.6	3.3	3.1	3.8
Other	9.1	7.7	-	12.2	13.3	15.4	9.0	9.1	11.9	6.7	10.4	7.8	7.9	10.2
None	62.2	57.8	70.5	63.7	51.8	57.7	55.3	62.5	68.1	77.4	58.2	66.4	62.6	61.9
No answer	2.4	5.1	1.0	1.8	3.5	4.0	2.7	2.1	5.3	-	2.6	2.3	2.7	2.2

-: Less than 1%.
Source: Goldfarb survey, 1983. Unpublished data.

Finally, it should be noted that women are more interested than men in joining voluntary organizations (except sports organizations).

4.3 Voluntary Participation

Since 1978, four nation-wide surveys have sounded the participation of young people in voluntary groups. The results of these surveys are shown in Table 4.3, which provides an overview of the phenomenon.

The substantial variations in the results of these surveys are not surprising. They are probably due to the different methods used. The 1978 survey covered all voluntary work, whether done within organizations or not, whereas the 1980 survey covered only voluntary work done within organizations which provide a service to the community. This explains why results on participation rates are lower in the latter case since they reflect only a portion of the wide range of possible voluntary activities. As for the Goldfarb survey, the wording of the question covered not only voluntary work done in all types of organizations but also all possible time frames. It is therefore difficult to compare its results with those of the previous surveys. The same holds true for the Gallup poll (1982) which covered only the 18-24 year-olds and limited the field of interest to the organizations listed in the questionnaire. It is therefore impossible to compare the results of the various surveys in a temporal perspective for the purpose of establishing trends. They will have to be analyzed in the specific context of each survey.

The Survey of Leisure-Time Activities (1978) has already been discussed under participatory activities (see Table 2.3); we remind the reader that the national average rate estimated at 37% varied according to age, region, mother tongue and language spoken at home, education and labour force status. The highest participation rates were recorded by university graduates (46%) and students (47%) and the lowest by Allophones (M.T., 25%, and L.S.H., 20%) and youths not in the labour force (23%). The number of hours devoted to volunteer work during the reference week varied according to marital status, education and labour force status, with the national average at 1.4 hours.

The Gallup poll conducted in 1982 provides information on participation in certain types of voluntary organizations (see Table A-16). As we expected, participation rates are lower than the rates of affiliation with these organizations. Approximately 9% of youths aged 18-24 do volunteer work for churches or religious organizations and for youth organizations. Rates drop dramatically to 3% for cultural or arts groups and for charities. Only 2% of youths aged 18-24 devote time and energy to political parties or groups and to environmentalist groups. The other organizations attract less than 1% of youths. On the whole, 79% of youths aged 18-24 do not do any volunteer work for any of the organizations listed. This percentage drops to 65% among people aged 25 and over and rates of participation in this age group range from 17% for churches or religious organizations to 1% for consumer groups. Adult participation in voluntary activities is therefore more widely distributed among the population and seems to be more varied than among the 18-24 age group.

The Goldfarb survey (1983) provides the same type of information but for the population aged 15-24 and for selected characteristics (see Table A-17). Religious and sports organizations draw the most young people in voluntary activity (7% and 6% respectively). Only 3% of young people do volunteer work

TABLE 4.3: Participation rates in voluntary activities by age. Various surveys, Canada, 1978-1983

Source	Operational definition	Total	15-19 years	20-24 years	18-24 years	25 years and more
1. Survey of Leisure-Time Activities, Statistics Canada, 1978	Volunteer work, community affairs, clubs (participation during previous 12 months)	35.8	48.9	30.9	-	35.6
2. Survey of Volunteer Workers. Statistics Canada, 1980	Volunteer work in organization whose activities benefit our communities at large or specific groups of persons within the community (participation during previous 12 months)	15.2	9.4	9.3	-	17.2
3. CARA Study of Values, Gallup, 1982	Unpaid voluntary work in selected organizations (charities, churches or religious organizations, education or arts groups, labour unions, political parties or groups, human rights organizations, ecological, youth, consumer groups, professional associations (current participation)	31.7	-	-	20.8	35.5
4. Youth Survey, Goldfarb, 1983	Volunteer work for an organization	-	41.9	41.6	-	-

for charities and theatre or arts groups, whereas 2% participate in student federations and youth organizations. The other organizations raise only minimal interest among young people (less than 1%).

Voluntary participation levels seem to be the highest among Maritime and Prairies youths. They are lower in Quebec, except for sports organizations and theatre or arts groups. Students have a tendency to do relatively more volunteer work for these groups than youths not in the labour force. More women do volunteer work for charities, religious organizations, student federations and youth organizations but more men work with sports organizations. Finally, the older age group (20-24), prefers charities and theatre or arts groups whereas the younger group (15-19) prefers student federations and youth organizations.

One last point regarding this survey is the very high rate of non-response to this question (18%) which may invalidate the findings discussed earlier. In Quebec, this non-response rate is four times lower than the national average, while the rate of non-volunteers clearly exceeds those of the other provinces. The substantial variation in these rates may be due to the wording of the question which differs in the French and English versions. In English, the question refers explicitly to the organizations mentioned by the respondent in the previous question. It reads: "Do you do any unpaid volunteer work for any of those organizations? This wording may have led respondents who did not belong to any organization to ignore the question, or may have led the interviewers faced with such respondents to skip over the question. Thus, an undetermined portion of these non-respondents should be included with young people who do not do any volunteer work. For francophones, the question remained open: "Faites-vous du bénévolat pour une organization?[8] and was conceivably asked of every respondent. This explanation is all the more plausible as the rate of affiliation with voluntary organizations is lower than the rate of voluntary participation in all the provinces except Quebec, which is not logical

The last survey dealt exclusively with volunteer workers and thus is an important source of information on these persons. We will discuss some of its results in the following paragraphs.

During the year immediately preceding the survey, 9% of Canadian youths aged 15-24 did volunteer work through an organization (see Table 4.4). This percentage is almost double the figure for the population 25 and over. Actually, the 15-24 year-olds represented only 16% of volunteer workers although they represent 26% of the population of working age (see Table A-18). They are therefore underrepresented in the volunteer population. Only 5% of young people did volunteer work during the reference week. This figure represents half of the volunteer workers for the entire year. It is higher for the population 25 and over (10%) and represents more than 55% of the volunteers during the reference year.

What are the characteristics of young volunteers? Tables 4.4, A-19, A-20 and A-21 provide data on the variables age, sex, marital status, education and labour force status. Young volunteers are divided fairly evenly by sex and between the 15-19 and 20-24 age groups. Women have a tendency to get involved more at age 15-19 than at age 20-24, whereas the opposite is observed for men.

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8 Do you do volunteer work for an organization?

As for the other characteristics, the distribution of young volunteers among the various categories is tied to the distribution of the youth population among these categories. For example, it is not surprising that 98% of volunteers aged 15 to 19 are single, since the vast majority of persons that age are single (see Table A-19). At age 20-24, however, the pattern of distribution becomes very much similar to that of the population 25 and over. This is observed much more among women where 42% of volunteers are married, as opposed to 17% among men.

Similarly, a very high proportion of volunteers aged 15 to 19 have high school education (82%) (see Table A-20). This figure is almost double that for the population 25 and over. However, as the volunteers reach the higher age bracket (20-24), the percentage with high school education (grade 9 to 13) nears that of the adult population (around 48%), with 21% of the 20-24 year-olds having some post-secondary education and 30% a post-secondary certificate or diploma or a university degree. The major difference with the 25 and over group is in respect of the category "some post-secondary education": 9% of the adult population have attained this level of education, compared to 21% of the 20-24 year-olds. This difference probably reflects the fact that a good proportion of the 20-24 year-olds are still in school and, once they complete their education, they will probably fall under the graduate category. Female volunteers 25 years of age and over tend to have proportionately less education than male volunteers of the same age but educational attainment among 15-24 year-olds is divided fairly evenly by sex. This may be explained by the fact that women today pursue higher levels of education.

TABLE 4.4: Percentage of the working-age population who did volunteer work in the reference year and reference week, by age and sex, Canada, 1980

Age and Sex	Did volunteer work in the reference year	Did volunteer work in the reference week
Total	15.2	8.4
15-19 years	9.4	5.3
20-24 years	9.3	4.2
15-24 years	**9.4**	**4.7**
25 years & over	17.2	9.7
Men	14.2	8.0
15-19 years	8.1	4.7
20-24 years	10.0	4.2
15-24 years	9.1	4.5
25 years & over	16.1	9.3
Women	16.2	8.8
15-19 years	10.8	5.9
20-24 years	8.5	4.1
15-24 years	9.7	5.0
25 years & over	18.3	10.1

Source: Statistics Canada, An overview of Volunteer Workers in Canada, 1978, Tables 1 and 4. Catalogue 71-530.

Finally, what is the status of young volunteers in the labour force? We should point out at the outset that the category "student" is not included in the Statistics Canada compilations. Students are therefore distributed among the other categories without any indication of their respective proportions. Young volunteers aged 15-19 are divided fairly evenly between employed youths and youths not in the labour force (see Table A-21). This distribution also holds true for men and women. However, in the upper age group (20-24), as in the population 25 and over, there is a tendency toward a higher concentration of volunteer workers among employed persons. These are mostly men, as 41% of female volunteers in these age groups are recruited among persons not in the labour force. The future will tell whether the young generation of employed women will continue to form the majority of volunteers 20-24 years of age. In 1980, the majority of female volunteers 25 years of age and over were recruited among persons not in the labour force.

While social/welfare organizations recruit the largest proportion of volunteers 25 years of age and over (34%), leisure activity associations attract the most 15-24 year-olds (32%) (see Table 4.5). Religious associations rank second in popularity for both age groups, with slightly lower participation rates for young people, 22%, compared to 26% for adults. Next on the list of favourite voluntary organizations of young people aged 15-24 are educational (18%) and social/welfare organizations (16%). The other types of organizations (health, civic/community action, political organizations) draw less than 10% of the young and adult volunteer population.

In general, voluntary participation rates are higher among the adult population than among the 15-24 year-olds, except in leisure activity associations. Young women seem to be more active in voluntary work than young men in all types of organizations except leisure activity associations.

In the organizations where they work on a volunteer basis, more young people are involved in the provision of services to beneficiaries: education (22%); social/welfare and other direct services (23%); health care services (11%); and in support activities for the organization itself (20%) (see Table 4.6). On the other hand, more adults work in management services (25%, compared to 13% of young people), administrative services (18%, compared to 10% of youths) and fund-raising (17%, compared to 10% of young people). The young therefore seem to fill the working-level positions in voluntary organizations, rather than the executive positions, which no doubt reflects their experience.

Despite the perception (founded or not) that people do not help each other as much any more, the majority of young people have a positive attitude toward voluntary action. Doing volunteer work is an important goal for 60% of 15-24 year-olds and a majority of unemployed youths would be willing to do volunteer work to improve their chances of getting a job.

The Gallup poll (1982) reveals that 55% of 18-24 year-olds do not belong to any of the organizations mentioned in its questionnaire. This figure is only 39% for adults. Also, young people belong to fewer organizations than their elders and prefer theatre or arts groups. The findings of the Goldfarb survey (1983) suggest variations in affiliation by sex, region and labour force status.

As for voluntary participation, it is less prevalent among 18-24 year-olds than among the population 25 and over (Gallup, 1982) and it varies by sex and region (Goldfarb, 1983).

TABLE 4.5: Percentage distribution of persons who did volunteer work in the reference year, by age and sex, disaggregated by type of volunteer organization[1], Canada, 1978

Age and Sex	Health	Education	Social/ Welfare	Leisure Activity	Religious	Civic/ Community Action	Political	Other
Both sexes	7.9	16.3	31.5	24.1	25.5	3.2	4.4	9.1
15-19 years	6.6	17.3	16.7	33.8	22.5	-	-	6.3
20-24 years	6.8	18.0	15.7	29.0	20.3	-	-	10.5
15-24 years	**6.5**	**17.8**	**16.1**	**31.5**	**21.5**	-	-	**8.4**
25 years & over	8.1	16.0	34.3	22.7	26.3	3.5	4.2	9.2
Men	5.0	11.6	28.3	32.7	21.9	4.4	5.3	10.6
15-19 years	-	13.2	16.4	42.8	18.5	-	-	-
20-24 years	-	11.3	13.5	39.8	18.9	-	-	12.4
15-24 years	-	12.4	14.8	41.1	18.7	-	-	-
25 years & over	5.3	11.5	30.9	31.1	22.5	4.9	5.2	10.9
Women	10.4	20.3	34.2	16.7	28.6	2.2	3.7	7.8
15-19 years	-	20.4	16.9	26.8	25.6	-	-	-
20-24 years	-	25.9	18.4	16.3	21.9	-	-	-
15-24 years	-	22.8	17.8	22.4	23.7	-	-	6.8
25 years & over	10.4	19.8	37.1	15.9	29.4	1.4	3.5	8.0

[1] See Appendix 3 for the content of each type of organization.

Source: Statistics Canada, An Overview of Volunteer Workers in Canada, table 19. Catalogue 71-530.

TABLE 4.6: Percentage distribution of persons who did volunteer work in the reference year, by age and sex, disaggregated by type of volunteer service, Canada, 1978

Age and Sex	Health care services (direct)	Education	Social/ Welfare and other direct services	Management clerical and other administrative services	Committee work (administrative)	Fund raising	Other support services
Both sexes	9.0	17.2	20.3	23.1	16.5	16.0	17.5
15-19 years	10.0	23.1	21.7	11.2	7.3	11.7	21.9
20-24 years	11.9	21.0	24.0	15.0	11.1	7.2	18.7
15-24 years	**11.0**	**22.0**	**22.7**	**13.1**	**9.1**	**9.6**	**20.3**
25 years & over	8.6	16.3	19.8	25.0	17.9	17.2	16.9
Men	5.6	13.5	23.7	26.0	17.6	12.1	19.2
15-19 years	-	20.8	24.5	-	-	-	27.1
20-24 years	-	15.9	27.2	17.4	-	-	24.0
15-24 years	-	18.2	25.8	-	-	-	25.4
25 years & over	5.4	12.6	23.3	28.3	19.0	13.2	17.9
Women	11.8	20.3	17.4	20.7	15.6	19.3	16.0
15-19 years	12.7	24.9	19.6	11.7	-	14.8	17.9
20-24 years	17.5	27.0	20.3	-	-	-	-
15-24 years	15.1	26.0	19.6	12.3	7.8	11.9	16.0
25 years & over	11.3	19.3	17.0	22.1	17.0	20.6	16.0

Source: Statistics Canada, An Overview of Volunteer Workers in Canada, 1980, Table 22. Catalogue 71-530.

5. PARTICIPATION IN POLITICS

The threat of political alienation of youth is a matter of serious concern for a great number of political and social representatives. Characterized by a lack of values, loss of purpose in life, distance from power, lack of social standards and personal rules of conduct, as well as a feeling of social isolation, alienation would keep youths in a state of passivity and chronic indifference regarding public and political matters (Lazure, 1983). At a time when young people should be developing political awareness for participation in the democratic process, true alienation would short-circuit this essential process of integration, and thus could jeopardize the vitality of our democratic system.

According to Beaudry (1980), developing political awareness or interest in political matters requires a certain amount of information. This information must be analyzed, digested and evaluated before a political opinion or judgment can be formed. Ideally, political judgment should prompt involvement through concrete actions which can range from the simple discussion of political issues to active participation in a political party or group. Our discussion of the participation of young Canadians in politics will be based on these three stages of political development: awareness, critical reflection and involvement.

5.1 Political Awareness

5.1.1 Interest in political issues

Are young people interested in politics? Gallup asked the question directly in the CARA survey on values in June 1982. The results, as shown in Table 5.1, indicate that 5% of respondents 18-25 years of age take an active interest in politics and 37% are interested but do not take an active part. However, approximately one third of respondents indicated no interest at all in politics. This proportion is nearly double that for the population 25 and over. Also, the percentage of adults who indicated an active interest in politics is 8%, nearly twice that of young people. Thus, young people are not only less active in politics than adults, but a greater proportion of them are not even interested in it. Are these differences due to age, in the sense that as people grow older they become more concerned about politics, or are we witnessing a generation effect whereby a lower interest in politics occurs in the older groups as the young grow older? We cannot answer these questions due to lack of longitudinal data.

It might be advisable to distinguish between politics itself and certain public or political issues. As shown in Table 5.2, international relations and disarmament captured the interest of more than 50% of the youth population in 1983, with lower percentages among young women. The issues that raise the most interest in young people are cruise missile testing and disarmament. Indeed, approximately 75% of young men and more than 60% of young women were interested in these issues at the time the survey was conducted in June 1983. Although we observe a declining interest in these issues three months later among young men, the proportion of young people concerned with these issues remains very significant. Adult interest in these issues is comparable.

TABLE 5.1: Percentage distribution of respondents by interest in politics and age, Canada, June 1972

Interest in politics	Total	18-24 years	25 years and +
I take an active interest in politics	7.2	4.7	8.1
I am interested in politics but don't take any active part	45.5	37.1	48.4
My interest in politics is not greater than other interests	26.9	27.1	26.9
I'm not interested in politics at all	20.4	31.2	16.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

* Note: Due to rounding, totals may not add up to 100%.

Source: CARA survey, Gallup, 1982. Special compilations.

TABLE 5.2: Interest in selected public or political issues, by age and sex, Canada, 1983.

Public or political issue	Total		18-24 years		25 years and +	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
June 1983						
% who are very or fairly interested in:						
- Canada-U.S. relations	79	70	71	64	81	70
- Canada-U.S.S.R. relations	61	53	58	53	61	54
- U.S.-U.S.S.R. relations	71	58	69	52	71	59
- Cruise missile testing	73	65	74	60	73	66
- disarmament	78	70	77	66	77	71
September 1983						
% who are very or fairly interested in:						
- Cruise missile testing	68	61	71	60	68	61
- disarmament	71	63	70	62	72	63
November 1983						
% who followed very closely or somewhat closely:						
- the problem of acid rain	48	37	36	28	50	38

Source: The Crop Report, 83-4, question 81; 83-5, question 115; 84-1, question 43. Special compilations.

On the other hand, the problem of acid rain does not seem to raise much concern among young people. Approximately one third of the 18-24 year-olds had followed the problem very closely or somewhat closely at the time of the survey (November 1983). The adult population is much more interested in this problem (50% of men and 38% of women).

It would appear that only a minority of young people are interested in politics. However, young people are not altogether disinterested in the political sphere, as a large proportion of them keep up with political issues.

5.1.2 Sources of Information

Where do young people get information on current events? It would appear that the preferred medium is television (see Table 5.3). Indeed, 50% of young men and 43% of young women indicate that they follow the news mostly on television. These figures should not surprise us considering the generalized and firmly rooted television viewing habits observed among the youth population (see Chapter 2 on this subject), and especially since a strong majority of young people (69% of men and 80% of women) indicate that they are satisfied with the amount of news and general information programs shown on television (see Table A-5). This type of program received the highest rating among young people, with respect to satisfaction with amount of programming. However, approximately 16% of 18-24 year-olds think that there are too many programs of this type on television, compared to only 8% of adults. Also, approximately 5% of young people prefer information programs (see Table A-4), compared to 15% of adults.

TABLE 5.3: Percentage distribution of media for keeping up with news, by age and sex, Canada, September 1983.

Medium	Total		18-24 years		25 years and +	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Mostly through newspapers	29	29	20	31	32	28
Mostly through magazines	1	1	1	1	1	1
Mostly through television	45	44	50	43	43	45
Mostly through radio	20	22	22	19	20	22
Other	3	2	4	3	3	2
Does not keep up with the news	1	2	1	3	1	1
Does not know/No answer	1	1	2	1	1	1
Total*	100	100	100	100	100	100

* Note: Due to rounding, totals may not add up to 100%.

Source: The Crop Report, 83-5, question 25. Special compilations.

The other two favourite media for keeping up with the news are newspapers and radio. Young men prefer these media equally (approximately 20%) whereas young women clearly prefer newspapers to the radio (31% and 19% respectively, see Table 5.3).

Although newspapers are less popular than television, other surveys indicate that they are read by a large number of young people. Fifty-seven percent (57%) of young people polled by Gallup (1982) indicated that they regularly read a daily newspaper (that is, at least four out of every six issues). This figure rises to 68% for adults.

The Survey of Leisure-Time Activities (Statistics Canada, 1978) indicates that young people in the 15-19 age group read newspapers for an average of 2.4 hours during the reference week, compared to 3.1 hours for those in the 20-24 age group and 4.3 hours for adults (see Table 5.4). However, participation rates are quite high since more than 75% of the youth population read a newspaper during the reference week (76% of the 15-19 year-olds and 78% of the 20-24 year-olds). These figures are only slightly lower than the adult figure of 80%. Age, sex and region have relatively no impact on number of hours and participation rate. However, levels tend t fall below the national average among rural dwellers, widowed, separated or divorced persons, Allophones (M.T. and L.S.H.), bilingual persons (L.S.H.) and persons not in the labour force. Levels exceed the national average among bilingual persons (M.T.) and the unemployed. Finally, there is a direct relationship between these indicators and educational attainment.

The same survey also reveals what types of newspapers (see Table 5.5) and which sections of newspapers are read (see Table 5.6). Nearly 60% of 15-24 year-olds read a neighbourhood or community paper, nearly 70% a city paper where they live, and 30% another city paper in their province. Approximately 10% of young people read a paper from another province or another country. This distribution does not vary by age or sex. However, it varies somewhat by region, especially in the Maritimes. Young rural dwellers read fewer city papers where they live but more of the other types of newspapers. Also, bilingual youths (M.T.) have reading rates above the national average for all types of newspapers. As for education, the higher the level of education, the higher the rates for all types of newspapers except neighbourhood or community papers; this type of newspaper is read fairly equally by all young people regardless of educational attainment, except for youths with 0-8 years of schooling who have a rate of 44%. Allophones (M.T. and L.S.H.) show a very strong interest in papers from other countries (more than 20%). Finally, youths not in the labour force have lower reading rates for all types of newspapers, but unemployed youths tend to read more newspapers than the others.

While newspaper reading is relatively widespread among young people, it would seem that they are not interested in reading the news sections. Indeed, only 43% of 15-24 year-olds usually read the local news, while less than 30% read the national news (28%) or world news (24%), and only 10% read the editorial page (see Table 5.6). These figures are clearly higher for the adult population. The popularity of these sections seems to increase with age and variations are observed by sex (young men are more interested in national and world news than young women). Rates for the other variables shown in Table 5.6 also fluctuate around the national rate. Educational attainment, however, seems to be the main factor influencing the frequency of reading of these sections. Again, rates increase with the level of education.

A third medium, preferred by only 1% of the population 18-24 years of age (See Table 5.3), nevertheless reaches 5% to 15% of 15-24 year-olds, depending on the type of magazine (see Table 5.7). Indeed, 5% of young people read a regional publication during the two months preceding the survey, 15%, a Canadian publication, and 11%, a non-Canadian publication. Canadian and non-Canadian publications are more popular among 20-24 year-olds than 15-19 year-olds,and there are substantial variations by region (especially among Quebecers whose rates are opposite to the national rates), by mother tongue and language spoken at home, by education and labour force status.

TABLE 5.4: Participation rates (%) and number of hours spent reading newspapers in the reference week, by age and sex, and for the 15-24 age group, by selected characteristics, Canada, 1978.

	Participation rate	Average number of hours		Participation rate	Average number of hours
Age and Sex			Marital Status		
Both sexes			Single	77.3	2.8
15-19 years	75.5	2.4	Married	74.9	2.7
20-24 years	77.7	3.1	Other	64.8	2.1
15-24 years	**76.6**	**2.7**			
25 years and +	79.7	4.3	Mother Tongue (L.M.)		
			English	79.5	2.7
Men			French	71.2	2.7
15-19 years	73.5	2.4	Engl. & French	82.1	3.4
20-24 years	80.3	3.5	Other	67.5	2.6
15-24 years	76.8	3.0			
25 year and +	80.3	4.6	Language Spoken at Home (L.S.H.)		
			English	79.5	2.8
Women			French	72.5	2.8
15-19 years	77.6	2.4	Engl. & French	67.0	2.2
20-24 years	75.2	2.6	Other	60.7	2.2
15-24 years	76.4	2.5			
25 year and +	79.1	4.0	Education		
Total(15-24 years)	**76.6**	**2.7**	0-8 years	53.9	2.0
			9-13 years	76.3	2.7
Region			Some post-sec.	83.1	3.1
Maritimes	72.2	2.5	Certificate/diploma	80.7	3.1
Quebec	73.0	2.9	Univ. degree	86.8	3.2
Ontario	79.9	2.8			
Prairies	78.9	2.6	Labour Force Status		
B.C.	76.0	2.5	Not in labour force	61.7	2.4
			Unemployed	82.3	3.9
Environment			Employed	78.6	3.0
Urban	78.4	2.9	Student	77.5	2.4
Rural	69.1	2.1			

Source: Statistics Canada, Survey of Leisure-Time Activities, 1978. Special compilations.

Table 5.5: Percentage of respondents who read various types of newspapers, by age and sex, and for the 15-24 age group, by selected characteristics, Canada, 1978.

	Neighbourhood or community paper	City paper where you live	Other city paper in province	Paper from another province	Paper from another country
Age and Sex					
Both sexes					
15-19 years	58.9	65.8	29.5	10.7	9.8
20-24 years	56.2	69.4	28.2	10.4	9.3
15-24 years	**57.6**	**67.6**	**28.8**	**10.6**	**9.6**
25 years & +	60.1	65.8	28.9	10.6	11.3
Men					
15-19 years	53.6	64.3	28.3	10.0	9.5
20-24 years	56.0	69.7	31.8	12.6	9.9
15-24 years	54.8	66.9	30.0	11.2	9.7
25 years & +	58.7	66.1	30.7	11.9	12.6
Women					
15-19 years	64.4	67.4	30.7	11.5	10.2
20-24 years	56.4	69.0	24.5	8.3	8.8
15-24 years	60.4	68.2	27.6	9.9	9.5
25 years & +	61.4	65.4	27.1	9.4	10.1
Total (15-24 yrs)	**57.6**	**67.6**	**28.8**	**10.6**	**9.6**
Region					
Maritimes	54.9	50.8	31.3	13.6	8.5
Quebec	58.9	65.1	29.5	11.4	10.8
Ontario	56.9	71.6	27.4	8.2	9.0
Prairies	58.8	70.9	26.6	13.3	9.2
B.-C.	57.0	71.8	33.0	9.2	9.9
Environment					
Urban	55.8	73.5	26.6	10.0	9.8
Rural	65.2	42.4	38.6	13.1	8.6

	Neighbourhood or community paper	City paper where you live	Other city paper in province	Paper from another province	Paper from another country
Marital Status					
Single	57.3	67.6	29.6	11.2	10.4
Married	58.9	66.9	26.8	8.8	7.0
Other	44.8	81.5	27.2	7.4	13.4
Mother Tongue (M.T.)					
English	58.3	70.2	29.4	9.9	8.0
French	55.6	60.2	28.1	10.5	9.1
Engl. & Fr.	67.8	74.9	41.9	16.9	13.2
Other	51.4	65.5	18.1	12.4	22.3
Language Spoken at Home (L.S.H.)					
English	58.7	70.5	28.9	9.9	8.0
French	57.2	62.3	29.2	10.8	9.9
Engl. & Fr.	57.5	49.1	32.3	13.5	10.4
Other	43.3	59.7	25.1	18.5	30.3
Education					
0-8 years	44.3	44.1	20.3	7.8	8.6
9-13 years	59.2	66.3	28.9	10.9	9.3
Some post-s	57.9	73.4	29.3	10.2	10.1
Cert./dipl.	56.0	77.1	33.2	9.0	10.7
Univ. deg.	55.2	85.7	31.6	13.9	11.5
Labour Force Status					
Not in labour force	51.3	51.0	21.4	7.8	5.5
Unemployed	60.4	66.4	32.7	14.7	13.1
Employed	56.4	69.5	29.4	10.8	8.7
Student	59.7	70.0	29.5	10.4	10.8

Source: Statistics Canada, Survey of Leisure-Time Activities, 1978. Special compilations.

Table 5.6: Percentage of respondents who usually read part or all of various newspaper sections, by age and sex, and for the 15-24 age group, by selected characteristics, Canada, 1978

	Local and regional news	National news	World news	Editorial page
Age and Sex				
Both sexes				
15-19 years	36.0	21.0	18.4	7.3
20-24 years	49.7	35.8	30.2	11.9
15-24 years	**42.7**	**28.2**	**24.2**	**9.6**
25 years & +	69.2	56.8	51.5	29.2
Men				
15-19 years	33.4	22.2	19.6	5.6
20-24 years	51.3	42.0	36.2	12.5
15-24 years	42.1	31.8	27.7	9.0
25 years & +	68.9	61.9	56.4	29.5
Women				
15-19 years	38.7	19.8	17.1	9.1
20-24 years	48.1	29.4	24.2	11.3
15-24 years	43.3	24.5	20.6	10.2
25 years & +	69.5	51.9	46.9	29.0
Total (15-24 yrs)	**42.7**	**28.2**	**24.2**	**9.6**
Region				
Maritimes	40.9	28.4	23.1	10.0
Quebec	41.2	21.2	18.7	9.8
Ontario	43.9	30.8	27.1	10.5
Prairies	43.5	32.4	26.7	9.1
C.-B.	43.4	31.9	26.1	5.9
Environment				
Urban	43.7	30.2	25.8	10.0
Rural	38.4	19.6	17.2	7.6

	Local and regional news	National news	World news	Editorial page
Marital Status				
Single	40.3	27.1	24.2	9.8
Married	49.7	31.1	24.1	8.7
Other	43.9	35.3	21.6	17.6
Mother Tongue (M.T.)				
English	45.1	31.3	26.5	9.3
French	38.9	19.7	15.3	9.8
Engl. & Fr.	48.9	35.4	34.2	16.4
Other	31.7	27.1	28.8	6.6
Language Spoken at Home (L.S.H.)				
English	44.3	31.9	27.2	9.6
French	40.3	20.4	16.6	10.3
Engl. & Fr.	46.3	29.4	27.7	8.4
Other	31.9	19.1	23.4	4.6
Education				
0-8 years	21.0	14.0	11.1	4.5
9-13 years	41.6	23.9	20.5	8.2
Some post-s	48.2	40.7	35.7	13.0
Cert./dipl.	54.2	38.2	29.2	11.8
Univ. deg.	53.4	55.0	53.1	23.1
Labour Force Status				
Not in labour force	39.2	20.9	16.5	10.6
Unemployed	49.7	23.0	18.7	8.4
Employed	49.5	33.1	27.1	11.0
Student	36.2	26.4	24.2	8.2

Source: Statistics Canada, Survey of Leisure-Time Activities, 1978. Special compilations.

In summary, it would seem that only a minority of young people (less than 45%) usually read the news section of a newspaper, and an even smaller number read news magazines (less than 15%). Among the adult population, rates are clearly higher for newspapers (69% or less depending on the type of news) but relatively the same for magazines (17% or less). Unfortunately, there are no data available on the number of young people who follow the news on television. However, we can assume that rates would be higher than for the press since one youth in two indicated that television is his favourite source of information while only one youth in four preferred newspapers. Interest in current events therefore appears to be weaker among young people than adults but is nevertheless significant.

TABLE 5.7: Percentage of respondents who read news magazines between January 1 and February 28, by type of magazine, age and sex, and for the 15-24 age group, by selected characteristics, Canada, 1978.

	Regional	Canadian	Non-Canadian		Regional	Canadian	Non-Canadian
Age and Sex				Marital Status			
Both sexes				Single	5.7	15.8	11.6
15-19 years	5.4	13.0	9.0	Married	3.7	11.1	7.3
20-24 years	5.0	16.3	12.0	Other	6.1	13.5	9.8
15-24 years	**5.2**	**14.6**	**10.5**				
25 years & +	7.1	17.2	12.4	Mother Tongue (L.M.)			
				English			
				French	4.0	17.4	12.4
Men				Engl. & French	6.5	6.8	4.1
15-19 years	5.2	12.7	10.2	Other	3.4	15.2	10.0
20-24 years	5.1	15.9	14.1		5.0	18.3	17.4
15-24 years	5.1	14.3	12.1	Language Spoken at			
25 years & +	7.5	17.7	14.5	Home (L.S.H.)			
				English			
Women				French	4.0	17.8	12.8
15-19 years	5.6	13.4	7.8	Engl. & French	7.4	7.1	4.5
20-24 years	5.0	16.6	9.9	Other	8.2	6.5	6.8
15-24 years	5.3	15.0	8.8		9.6	13.5	12,2
25 years & +	6.8	16.7	10.5	Education			
				0-8 years			
Tot.(15-24 yrs)	**5.2**	**14.6**	**10.5**	9-13 years	2.6	6.5	3.4
				Some post-sec.	4.8	12.8	8.6
Region				Certif./diploma	6.2	20.4	15.9
Maritimes	4.2	13.7	9.1	Univ. degree	6.7	15.8	8.8
Quebec	7.4	7.5	4.9		0.2	33.5	36.2
Ontario	4.7	17.0	13.4	Labour Force Status			
Prairies	4.9	19.4	13.5	Not in labour			
C.-B.	2.2	19.3	12.5	force	2.6	7.6	2.3
				Unemployed	4.7	12.2	6.2
Environment				Employed	5.1	14.1	10.9
Urban	5.3	15.6	11.8	Student	6.1	17.2	12.8
Rural	4.8	10.4	5.0				

Source: Statistics Canada, Survey of Leisure-Time Activities, 1978. Special compilations.

5.1.3 Extent of knowledge

It would have been interesting to determine the extent of knowledge of the political system among young Canadians. What do they know of our political institutions, their standards and methods of operation? Are they familiar with the various authorities created by the structures and persons who wield power? Do they know what is at stake in today's politics?

A survey conducted among 1,006 first-year university students in Eastern Canada, published in 1974, indicates a very low knowledge of political authorities and organizations which control everyday life in national and international systems (Maghami, 1974). It was found that young urban males who defined themselves as upper class were more represented in the high political knowledge category. This survey, however, is ten years old and the factors influencing political knowledge may have changed since then (e.g. sex).

Recent data on knowledge of political figures are available through the Goldfarb survey (1983). Goldfarb (1983) approached this subject from two directions. The first question asked respondents to name three public figures, living or not, whom they admire or respect most. The results are shown in table 5.8. Among the twenty most popular public figures mentioned by young people aged 15 to 24, nine held or are still holding office in a Canadian political institution (Pierre E. Trudeau, Queen Elizabeth II, John Diefenbaker, René Lévesque, John A. MacDonald, Bill Davis, Joe Clark, Peter Lougheed, Lady Diana), and six are international political figures (Ronald Reagan, Winston Churchill, Ghandi, Martin Luther King, Abraham Lincoln, Margaret Thatcher). The other figures are from the sports world (Wayne Gretzky), the business world (Peter Pocklington), the religious world (God, John Paul II) and the humanitarian world (Terry Fox). Interestingly enough, young women tend to mention female personalities more than men. For example, Queen Elizabeth II was the choice of 8% of women, after Pierre E. Trudeau. Although the other two female personalities are less popular, they were mentioned by women more than men. Finally, it should be noted that 19% of the respondents could not give an answer to this question. These came mostly from British Columbia and from the unemployed population. It is not known, however, whether this is due to a lack of knowledge of public figures or to the scarcity of persons likely to inspire respect and admiration.

The other approach consisted of reading a list of names and asking the respondents whether they knew of the persons (see Table 5.9). Out of the eleven figures named, seven were from the political world. The best known were former prime ministers of Canada (John A. MacDonald, 85%; Sir Wilfrid Laurier, 81%; Mackenzie King, 75%; Louis St. Laurent, 57%). The other figures were recognized by less than 50% of young people (R.B. Bennett, 48%; Jules Léger, 39%; and Ken Taylor, 32%). It should be noted that Wayne Gretzky was the best known; 97% of the 15-24 year-olds indicated that they knew him. There were significant variations in the levels of knowledge of political figures by region and labour force status. By region, Quebec youths have the lowest rates, whereas Ontario and Prairie youths have higher rates in general. Youths not in the labour force and unemployed youths tend to have a lower knowledge than students and employed youths. Finally, the only difference observed by sex was in respect of Ken Taylor, who is better known among men.

TABLE 5.8: Percentage of respondents who spontaneously indicated the following public figures (living or not) among the three public figures they admire or respect most, by selected characteristics, Canada, May 1983

Figure	Total	Region					Labour Force Status				Sex		Age	
		Mar.	Que.	Ont.	Prair.	B.C.	Stud.	Empl.	Unemployed	Not in labour force	Men	Women	15-19	20-24
Pierre E. Trudeau	13.5	12.6	14.7	14.3	14.7	6.9	14.5	12.8	14.6	11.5	14.7	12.3	15.2	12.0
Terry Fox	7.3	8.6	1.3	8.6	14.2	5.5	7.3	8.6	3.7	6.1	6.3	8.3	7.0	7.5
Jean-Paul II	6.4	7.3	7.6	6.3	5.5	4.5	5.3	7.5	7.0	5.3	4.7	8.1	5.6	7.0
Ronald Reagan	6.3	5.6	5.8	7.5	4.0	7.9	6.1	7.4	5.8	3.9	7.9	4.7	5.6	6.9
Wayne Gretzky	5.6	10.5	7.4	3.7	4.9	4.5	5.9	5.6	4.9	5.1	8.9	2.3	6.4	4.9
Élizabeth II	5.5	7.9	-	5.9	9.4	8.0	4.0	5.4	10.5	5.8	2.6	8.4	4.4	6.4
J. Diefenbaker	5.4	5.0	-	5.2	15.5	3.5	4.9	6.4	4.6	4.2	5.7	5.1	5.5	5.3
W. Churchill	5.0	7.9	1.0	7.2	3.9	6.5	7.1	4.3	2.7	3.1	6.8	3.1	5.4	4.6
Ghandi	3.9	2.4	5.3	3.1	3.4	5.4	3.9	4.4	1.3	4.8	3.3	4.6	3.3	4.4
René Lévesque	3.7	-	14.2	-	-	-	3.3	3.9	4.2	4.0	3.9	3.5	3.2	4.2
Martin L. King	3.5	4.1	3.1	3.9	2.5	4.0	2.3	4.9	4.0	1.7	3.2	3.7	1.9	4.8
John Macdonald	3.3	5.7	7 -	5.3	3.0	3.5	4.6	2.9	2.6	1.4	4.6	2.0	3.4	3.2
Abraham Lincoln	3.2	1.8	1.7	2.4	6.4	5.5	2.3	3.8	5.0	2.1	2.6	3.7	2.4	3.8
Bill Davis	3.0	-	-	8.0	-	-	2.8	4.1	1.1	1.0	4.3	1.7	2.2	3.6
M. Thatcher	3.0	3.0	-	4.4	4.0	4.0	3.7	2.5	-	5.3	2.4	3.6	3.0	2.9
God	2.0	4.4	1.3	1.3	2.4	3.5	1.7	1.5	-	5.7	1.9	2.1	1.7	2.3
Joe Clark	1.9	2.7	-	3.2	2.5	1.0	1.7	1.8	1.2	3.6	2.1	1.8	1.7	2.1
Peter Lougheed	1.8	-	-	1.0	7.9	-	1.2	2.4	1.6	1.4	2.4	1.1	-	2.8
Lady Diana	1.5	1.5	1.0	1.8	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.0	2.9	2.3	-	2.6	-	2.2
P. Pocklington	1.3	1.0	-	1.4	3.9	-	1.6	1.6	-	-	1.9	-	1.1	1.5
No answer	2.3	-	8.6	-	-	-	1.2	2.7	4.8	2.2	2.5	2.1	2.5	2.1
Don't know	19.0	15.6	10.9	23.2	17.1	30.3	19.1	18.0	22.8	18.9	16.4	21.6	20.9	17.3

Source: Goldfarb survey, 1983. Unpublished data.

Based on these two indicators, we can conclude that young people know a large number of political figures and tend to admire political figures more than personalities from other categories. Working in the political arena would therefore appear to promote recognition and inspire respect among young people. Unfortunately, we cannot compare political knowledge between young people and adults since the survey interviewed only 15-24 year-olds.

However, another survey permits a comparison of knowledge of current events between young people and adults. For two of its reports (83-4 and 84-1), Crop sounded the opinion of respondents on seven issues of public interest. To the question "Which group do you consider to be the most responsible for causing each of the following problems?", approximately 11% of 18-24 year-olds did not know or had no answer in respect of the following problems: the energy crisis, and economic disparities between the regions of Canada (see Table A-24). As for which group is doing the most to overcome these problems, the percentage who did not know or had no answer was again very high, especially among women (see Table A-25). For this last question, the problems of inflation and labour strikes join the two already mentioned. The percentage

of adults who did not know or had no answer was higher than the youth figure. This response category is ambiguous due to the fact that it encompasses several types of response. Do respondents who fall in this category lack knowledge, lack an opinion, or are they less inclined to express an opinion? Despite this reservation, the percentage observed for this category can be interpreted as an indicator of interest in and knowledge of the issues listed. In this respect, the 18-24 year-olds compare favourably with adults.

TABLE 5.9: Percentage of respondents aged 15-24 who indicated that they are familiar with the Canadian personalities mentioned, by selected characteristics, Canada, May 1983

Personality	Region						Labour Force Status				Sex		Age	
	Total	Mar.	Que.	Ont.	Prair.	B.C.	Stud.	Empl.	Unemployed	Not in labour force	Men	Women	15-19	20-24
M. McLuhan	20.3	21.1	10.9	28.5	19.6	16.4	20.7	21.2	12.0	22.9	20.8	19.8	15.4	24.5
Sir W. Laurier	81.3	72.2	81.7	86.5	81.2	71.1	83.0	85.2	70.6	71.7	82.6	79.9	78.3	83.8
Ken Taylor	31.5	34.4	13.8	37.4	48.4	25.4	31.8	34.6	26.1	24.5	38.8	24.0	26.9	35.4
R.B. Bennett	48.2	43.7	28.8	47.7	61.1	79.1	50.3	51.1	40.1	38.6	50.5	45.8	44.2	51.6
L. St-Laurent	56.9	66.3	45.7	61.2	62.1	53.2	56.9	60.6	53.9	46.8	59.8	53.9	52.8	60.4
Wayne Gretzky	96.6	99.5	91.5	97.2	99.5	100.0	97.5	96.7	96.2	94.1	97.5	95.7	96.5	96.7
Mackenzie King	75.2	76.0	57.4	84.9	81.0	76.6	78.3	77.2	71.6	62.0	77.8	72.6	72.9	77.3
Conrad Black	19.9	16.1	13.5	29.6	15.9	13.4	20.9	22.6	15.0	11.9	21.1	18.7	17.5	21.9
J.A. Macdonald	84.5	89.7	61.5	93.8	95.3	87.5	86.4	85.5	79.6	79.3	85.1	83.8	82.8	85.9
Marg. Atwood	42.4	51.9	19.3	52.7	47.6	47.7	45.2	45.4	30.9	33.4	39.9	44.9	38.0	46.2
Jules Léger	39.4	45.8	53.8	32.7	39.3	21.9	36.5	43.9	38.0	34.0	43.1	35.6	32.3	45.5

Source: Goldfarb survey, 1983. Unpublished data.

5.2 Critical Reflection on Politics

An essential quality of information is its strict adherence to the facts. Information must be objective. The individual then acquires the information, weights it against his or her values, and judges it, colouring it with his or her own subjective point of view. Youth is a time when values are crystallized, when independent opinions are formed, and when personal critical judgments are made on events and the manner in which authorities carry out their responsibilities. Are these values, opinions, judgments any different from those of adults? Is youth breaking off from society or being alienated from it? This section will attempt to answer these questions.

5.2.1 Beliefs and Values

Two recent surveys inquired into the values of young people. As the Goldfarb survey (1983) was directed only to young people 15 to 24 years of age, we cannot determine whether the values of young people differ from those of adults. The survey does, however, show interesting variations among young people themselves. We will discuss the results of this survey first, followed by those of the Gallup poll (1982) which permits youth-adult comparisons.

Table 5.10 shows the percentage of young people 15-24 years of age who find the values and aspirations in life suggested by Goldfarb (1983) very important or moderately important. More than 90% of the youths fall under these response categories, and the percentages are constant for personal achievement, respect for law and order, maintaining high ethical conduct and respect for authority, regardless of region, labour force status, sex or age. The other two items suggested, being a leader and religion, are deemed important by 71% and 65% of respondents respectively. It therefore appears that a very strong majority of young people aged 15-24 adhere to the traditional values of Canadian society.

Compared to adults (Gallup, 1982), slightly fewer young people aged 18-24 give priority to freedom over equality[9] (57%, compared to 64% of persons 25 and over), and slightly more to equality over freedom[10] (38%, compared to 29% of adults).

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9 The statement read as follows:
"I find that both freedom and equality are important. But if I were to make up my mind for one or the other, I would consider personal freedom more important, that is, eveyone can live in freedom and develop without hindrance."

10 The statement read as follows:
"Certainly both freedom and equality are important, but if I were to make up my mind for one of the two, I would consider equality more important, that is that nobody is underprivileged and that social class differences are not so strong."

TABLE 5.10: Percentage of respondents aged 15-24 who think that the values or aspirations in life suggested are very important or moderately important, by selected characteristics, Canada, May 1983

Value	Region						Labour Force Status				Sex		Age	
	Total	Mar.	Que.	Ont.	Prair.	B.C.	Stud.	Empl.	Unemployed	Not in labour force	Men	Women	15-19	20-24
Personal achievement	98.2	96.8	98.7	97.6	99.0	99.5	98.6	98.6	97.4	96.6	97.5	99.0	98.0	98.5
Respect for law and order	95.9	94.7	95.9	96.7	95.0	96.0	96.0	96.7	96.7	92.2	95.4	96.5	94.8	96.9
Maintaining high ethical conduct in your job/life	95.2	91.7	95.8	94.5	96.0	98.0	94.7	96.3	95.5	93.0	94.8	95.7	93.5	96.7
Respect for authority	92.0	94.1	94.1	91.9	90.6	88.1	91.4	93.0	91.2	91.4	90.7	93.4	92.5	91.7
Being a leader, taking a leadership role in things you participate in	70.8	63.9	70.8	71.2	75.5	68.2	72.4	73.4	71.6	56.2	74.9	66.7	70.4	71.2
Religion	65.1	77.2	73.5	59.4	63.7	55.7	63.6	65.6	69.0	64.6	60.6	69.7	66.5	63.9

Source: Goldfarb survey, 1983. Unpublished data.

With respect to changes that might take place in our way of life in the near future, the distribution of young people and adults is relatively similar for the three choices suggested (see Table 5.11). The modal category is the same regardless of the age group, and the proportions are generally of the same order of magnitude. More than 80% of young people think that it would be a good thing to place more emphasis on family life (85%), greater emphasis on the development of the individual (82%), and to have a simple and more natural lifestyle (80%). About 60% of the 18-24 year-olds think that it would be beneficial to have greater respect for authority (66%), to place less emphasis on money (63%), more emphasis on full equality for women (62%), greater emphasis on the free enterprise system (57%), and more emphasis on the development of technology (57%). Also, 71% of young people think that it would be a bad thing if government were to decrease its involvement with the poor, and 54% look unfavourably on a decrease in the importance of work in our lives.

It should be noted, however, that adults attach greater importance to family life (92%), authority (79%), the free enterprise system (70%) and work (62% think that it would be a bad thing if the importance of work decreased in our lives). Also, a greater proportion of young people tend not to mind the changes suggested but especially those relative to respect for authority, family life, equality for women and the free enterprise system. Adults therefore appear to be more attached to certain traditional values while a greater proportion of young people don't mind possible changes in these areas.

TABLE 5.11: Percentage of respondents according to their reaction to changes that might take place in our way of life in the near future, by age group, Canada, June 1982

Change	Good thing		Bad thing		Don't mind	
	18-24 years	25 yrs & over	18-24 years	25 yrs & over	18-24 years	25 yrs & over
• Less emphasis on money and material possessions	63.4	65.9	12.4	13.0	24.2	21.1
• Decrease in the importance of work in our lives	28.6	24.9	54.0	61.6	17.4	13.6
• More emphasis on the development of technology	56.7	60.6	13.7	14.3	29.6	25.4
• Greater emphasis on the development of the individual	81.7	83.6	6.5	4.1	11.8	12.1
• Greater respect for authority	66.4	78.9	12.5	5.6	21.2	15.5
• More emphasis on family life	84.7	92.2	3.4	1.8	11.8	6.0
• A simple and more natural lifestyle	80.4	84.6	6.2	2.7	13.4	12.7
• More emphasis on full equality for women	61.7	62.9	9.3	12.6	29.0	24.5
• Decreased governmental involvement with the poor	18.1	22.2	70.7	66.1	11.2	11.7
• Greater emphasis on the free enterprise system	56.8	69.5	14.3	10.0	28.9	20.5

Source: CARA survey, Gallup, 1982. Special compilations.

From another point of view, youths and adults are divided equally among the four goals that Canada should pursue for the next ten years (see Table 5.12). Approximately one third of the respondents give top priority to giving people more say in the government's decisions, while slightly less than 30% consider fighting inflation to be the most important. These two goals also came out on top as second most important goals but in reverse order (inflation, approximately 30%, and increased public participation, approximately 22%). The two age groups are also distributed fairly evenly on a scale of 1 to 10 which attempts to determine their political leanings from left to right (see Table A-22). A majority of respondents from both age groups are moderate (60% of young people, 57% of adults). A slightly higher proportion of young people lean to the left and a slightly higher proportion of adults to the extreme right.

TABLE 5.12: Percentage distribution of respondents by goal that this country should pursue for the next ten years, perceived priority and age group, Canada, June 1982

Goal	Top priority		Second priority	
	18-24 years	25 yrs & over	18-24 years	25 yrs & over
• Maintaining order in the nation	24.2	24.2	20.5	18.1
• Giving the people more say in important government decisions	32.6	33.7	21.7	23.8
• Fighting rising prices	28.3	27.5	31.7	30.4
• Protecting freedom of speech	11.8	10.9	21.1	22.3
• Don't know	3.1	3.6	5.0	5.4
Total*	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

* Note: Due to rounding, totals may not add up to 100%

Source: CARA survey, Gallup, 1982. Special compilations.

The data in Table 5.13 confirms the previous findings. Indeed, Gallup (1982) proposed three basic kinds of attitudes vis-à-vis the society we live in and asked respondents to choose the one which best describes their own opinion. Two thirds of the young people and adults indicated a preference for a gradual reform of society. Revolutionary action was chosen by 4% of the population but this percentage is slightly higher among 18-24 year-olds (7%). On the other hand, a greater proportion of adults (21%) than youths (14%) can be described as conservative. More than 10% of the young people did not know what to answer.

A similar question in the Goldfarb survey (1983) reveals a more moderate inclination among 15-24 year-olds (see table A-23). Approximately 6% of young people advocate revolutionary action, 81%, a gradual reform of society, and 9%, resistance against the forces of change. The moderates are slightly more numerous and the conservatives slightly less numerous than in the Gallup poll (1982). We should bear in mind, however, that the age group is different, that the third choice is worded quite differently, and that the rate of non-response is clearly lower (4%) than in the Gallup poll (1982). It is interesting to note the following variations by selected characteristics: Quebec and Maritime youths and the 15-19 age group are more radical than the others (7-8% chose revolutionary action; approximately 10% are conservative); on the other hand, Prairie and Ontario youths and the 20-24 age group are more moderate (84-86%); finally, 11% of young British Columbians are opposed to changes in our society.

Radical or unlawful behaviour is also rejected by a large majority of 18-24 year-olds: political assassination (91%); threatening workers who refuse to join a strike (91%); fighting with the police (90%); illegal strikes (76%); and terrorism (67%). Adults condemn the same behaviour in proportions ranging from 78% to 95% and in the same order. Again, the responses of the 18-24 age group to these questions are very similar to those of the adult population.

TABLE 5.13: Percentage distribution of respondents by basic attitude vis-à vis society and age group, Canada, June 1982

Attitude	Total	18-24 yrs	25 yrs & +
• The entire way our society is organized must be radically changed by revolutionary action	4.4	6.8	3.5
• Our society must be gradually improved by reforms	66.8	67.7	66.5
• Our present society must be valiantly defended against all subversive forces	19.3	14.0	21.1
• Don't know	9.5	11.5	8.8
Total*	100.0	100.0	100.0

* Note: Due to rounding, totals may not add up to 100%.

Source: CARA survey, Gallup 1982. Special compilations.

Furthermore, young people do not feel that they have no control over what happens to them (see Table 5.14), or that they are excluded from political power (see Table 5.15). In fact, 18-24 year-olds, more than adults, tend to think that they have freedom of choice and control over the way their lives turn out. The distribution shown in Table 5.14 is similar for both age groups, except in the category "a great deal of control and freedom of choice", which was reported by a greater proportion of young people. As for political power, 73% of the 15-24 year-olds interviewed by Goldfarb (1983) think that people like them can help to change the things that concern them in Canada today (see Table 5.15). This opinion is widespread among Prairie youths (81%) but much less common among Quebec youths (65%). The latter have a greater tendency to say they cannot help to change (25%) or that they don't know (10%).

TABLE 5.14: Percentage distribution of respondents by perceived freedom of choice and control over the way their lives turn out, as measured on a scale of 1 to 10, and by age group, Canada, June 1982.

	Position on scale of 1 to 10	Total	18-24 years	25 yrs & over
None at all	1-2	3.2	2.8	3.3
	3-4-5	17.3	14.6	18.3
A great deal	6-7-8	48.8	47.5	49.3
	9-10	29.7	35.1	27.9
Don't know		1.0	-	1.3
Total*		100.0	100.0	100.0

* Note: Due to rounding, totals may not add up to 100%.
Source: CARA survey, Gallup, 1982. Special compilations.

TABLE 5.15: Percentage distribution of respondents aged 15-24 by whether or not they think that people like them can help to change the things that concern them in Canada today, and by selected characteristics, Canada, May 1983

Value	Region						Labour Force Status				Sex		Age	
	Total	Mar.	Que.	Ont.	Prair.	B.C.	Stud.	Empl.	Unemployed	Not in labour force	Men	Women	15-19	20-24
Yes, can help to change	73.2	73.9	65.0	74.5	81.1	75.5	76.5	71.1	69.7	73.6	75.1	71.3	75.6	71.1
No, cannot help to change	21.3	22.7	24.6	21.6	16.5	18.5	19.2	22.5	23.0	21.5	20.9	21.6	18.8	23.4
Don't know	5.5	3.4	10.4	3.9	2.4	6.0	4.3	6.4	7.3	4.9	4.0	7.1	5.6	5.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: Goldfarb survey, 1983. Unpublished data.

Young people 18-24 years of age feel very lonely more often than adults. Indeed, only 26% of them indicate that they never feel very lonely, compared to 37% of adults. The remaining 75% of young people are divided fairly evenly among the categories "seldom" (35%) and "sometimes" (32%), and 7% feel very lonely frequently. Young people seem to be more distrustful than their elders: more than half of the 18-24 year-olds (56%) think that one can't be too careful in dealing with people. This figure is only 48% for the population 25 and over. This mistrust does not seem to depend on age. Approximately 70% of 18-24 year-olds responded on the positive side of a scale of 1 to 10 representing trust of young people in older people. This figure is 56% for the population 25 and over. However, young people tend to think that older people don't have much trust in the young generation. Sixty-five percent (65%) of responses by young people are on the negative side of a scale of 1 to 10, compared to 57% for adults. Thus, while 18-24 year-olds are more distrustful than adults, they seem to have more trust in adults than adults have in them. However, they think that older people trust them less than they really do.

Another question by Gallup (1982) completes the survey of opinion on the possible alienation of youth: do young people have the feeling that life is meaningless? Forty-four percent (44%) of them answered "never", which leaves a majority who think about the meaning and purpose of life: 30% rarely, 22% sometimes, and 3% often. Do these figures point to a profound malaise among young people? To answer this question, we can only refer to the responses of the population 25 years of age and over which indicate a very similar distribution to that of young people: 47% say that they never think about the meaning and purpose of life, 30% rarely, 19% sometimes, and 4% often.

The data analyzed up to this point do not point to the conclusion that today's young Canadians lack standards or values or that they reject the values considered important by their elders. On the contrary, they are close to the adults on most of the issues covered. The majority of young people do not feel helpless or excluded from power and although more of them feel lonely, they are not more concerned than adults about "the meaning and purpose of life".

All things considered, to conclude that young people have a problem would be to reach the same conclusion about adults. The problem would not be specific to an age group but would be a problem of society in general. It should be remembered, however, that the data presented here are incomplete and do not exhaust the entire issue of alienation.

5.2.2 Opinions on Political Issues

Canadians are facing a wide range of social and economic problems and are living with the threat of nuclear war and gradual deterioration of the environment. In its May 1983 survey, Goldfarb asked the opinion of young people 15-24 years of age on the importance of certain issues. The results are shown in Table 5.16.

Among the issues mentioned by Goldfarb (1983), those pertaining to the economy are deemed important by the greatest number of young people: unemployment, 97%, and inflation, 96%. However, pollution and environmental protection concern an equal proportion of young people (96%). In this respect, the Crop survey conducted in November 1984 indicates that approximately 75% of

18-24 year-olds interviewed consider acid rain as one of the most serious environmental problems that Canadians have to address. From another point of view, a large number of young people consider important such social issues as equality for women (88%), Native peoples' rights (81%), and to a lesser degree, the rights of the linguistic minorities in Canada (English-speaking people in Quebec, 73%, and French-speaking Canadians outside of Quebec, 73%). The threat of nuclear war concerns 79% of the 15-24 year-olds.

According to the Gallup poll (1982), 50% of young people aged 18-24 think that a world war is likely to break out within the next five years (those who indicated the five positive numbers on a scale of 1 to 10). This figure is lower for the population 25 and over, i.e. 42%. The Crop survey of November 1983 also indicates that a greater proportion of young people favour peace movements (82%, compared to 72% of the population 25 and over) and oppose Cruise missile testing in Canada (72%, compared to 54% of adults).

Thus, although young people attach great importance to economic issues, they are not obsessed with them but remain aware of other issues. It should be noted that the national averages for these issues vary only slightly for the selected characteristics presented in Table 5.16.

In a society like ours, the solution to these problems rests in the hands of the institutions we have created over the years. These institutions and the persons who manage them intervene in the political, economic and social life of our country by the influence they exert or the decisions they are authorized to make in their respective areas of jurisdiction. There are various sources of information on the trust and respect young people have in these institutions and their administrators. However, these surveys do not cover the same age groups, do not use the same terminology for the institutions, do not use the same scale and have different time frames. Their results are therefore not comparable and make it impossible to establish temporal trends. For this reason, we will not dwell on the magnitude of the percentages or on variations in percentages observed between surveys. Rather, we will attempt to highlight the convergent results of these surveys, which are shown in summary table 5.17.

The results of the Gallup poll (1982) and Goldfarb survey (1983) suggest a convergence in the level of confidence and respect young people have in certain institutions. The police, the education system(s), churches, religious organizations, organized religion and the legal system[11] obtain high marks among young people. With Gallup (1982), 70% to 84% of the 18-24 year- olds have quite a lot or a great deal of confidence in these institutions, and with Goldfarb (1983), 73% to 85% of young people aged 15-24 have a very high or moderately high level of respect for them. Levels of confidence are comparable among the population 25 and over (Gallup, 1982). It is interesting to note that these institutions are responsible for law enforcement or for conveying social values and standards. This confidence also appears to apply to the persons associated with these institutions. Seventy-nine percent (79%) of

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11 "The legal system" reads as "les lois" (the laws) in the French version of the Gallup poll (1982). Francophone respondents therefore received a different stimulus. It is impossible to determine the impact of this difference on results. The reader should therefore exercise care in interpretation.

TABLE 5.16: Percentage of respondents aged 15-24 who believe that each of the issues mentioned is very important or somewhat important, by selected characteristics, Canada, May 1983

Issue of public interest	Region						Labour Force Status				Sex		Age	
	Total	Mar.	Que.	Ont.	Prair.	B.C.	Stud.	Empl.	Unemployed	Not in labour force	Men	Women	15-19	20-24
Unemployment	96.9	98.4	93.7	98.0	97.1	100.0	97.6	96.9	97.8	94.4	96.2	97.7	97.1	96.8
Equality for women	88.1	90.3	85.1	86.7	92.1	91.6	88.7	90.2	84.0	82.4	85.0	91.3	86.6	89.4
Inflation/ rising cost of living	95.6	98.0	92.3	96.6	96.6	97.0	97.0	95.4	95.6	92.2	94.9	96.4	96.2	95.2
Nuclear disarmament	79.1	81.4	72.2	79.8	83.8	84.1	82.4	75.9	77.1	81.9	76.3	82.0	82.5	76.2
Rights of English-speaking people in Quebec	73.4	78.9	60.6	79.6	74.0	78.1	72.8	75.1	72.3	70.6	70.5	76.4	71.6	75.0
Pollution/ environmental concerns	95.6	91.8	96.2	94.7	98.0	97.0	95.5	96.0	99.0	91.6	95.7	95.6	94.7	96.4
Rights of French-speaking Canadians outside of Quebec	72.7	73.7	83.2	70.1	66.3	64.6	76.6	70.5	72.6	67.9	69.6	75.7	73.2	72.2
Native people's rights	81.3	84.6	75.0	82.6	84.8	84.1	85.6	78.0	84.1	77.5	78.7	84.0	81.9	80.9

Source: Goldfarb survey, 1983. Unpublished data.

TABLE 5.17: Percentage of respondents who trust or respect selected public institutions or figures, by survey, Canada.

Public institution or figure	Gallup June 1982 18-24 years (quite a lot or a great deal of confidence)	Goldfarb May 1983 15-24 years (moderately high or very high level of respect)	Crop June 1983 18-24 years (some or a lot of confidence)
Small businesses	-	87.6	-
The police	83.6	85.0	-
The education system	66.5	-	-
The post-secondary education system	-	81.4	-
The secondary school system	-	74.3	-
Churches or organized religion	64.8	-	-
Churches/religious organizations	-	75.0	-
Religious leaders	-	-	58
The legal system/the law	65.1	72.6	-
Judges and lawyers	-	-	79
Large corporations	56.7	66.9	-
The free enterprise system	-	-	77
Business leaders	-	-	57
The media	-	67.5	-
The press	44.0	-	-
Journalists	-	-	48
Advertizing	-	-	35
Public opinion polls	-	-	62
Canada's armed forces/ the army	54.5	61.0	-
The Public Service	51.8	-	-
Parliament	38.3	-	-
Governments	-	-	57
Your provincial government	-	58.5	-
The federal government	-	46.8	-
Political leaders	-	-	43
Labour unions	41.6	50.9	-
Labour leaders	-	-	40

Sources: CARA survey, Gallup, 1982. Special compilations.
Goldfarb survey, 1983. Unpublished data.
The Crop Report, 83-4, question 56. Special compilations.

the 18-24 year-olds interviewed by Crop (1983) say that they have some or a lot of confidence in judges and lawyers, and 58% in religious leaders. Among the adult population, these figures are lower for judges and lawyers, and higher for religious leaders.

The financial institutions are perceived favourably by young people. In Goldfarb (1983), small businesses even earned the highest respect (88%), while large corporations in general lagged behind by 20% (67%). In Gallup (1982), close to 60% of 18-24 year-olds trust major companies, matching the adult figure. Crop (1983) reports that approximately 77% of respondents aged 18-24 have confidence in private enterprise and that 57% extend this trust to business leaders. The 25 and over group seem to have more confidence than the younger group. Young people judge big businesses and small and medium-sized businesses differently. The large corporations are blamed the most for pollution (70%), the energy crisis (25%) and unemployment and inflation (15%), while small and medium-sized businesses are blamed for the problems mentioned in the Crop survey (1983) by less than 5% of young people (see Table A-24). On the other hand, approximately 15% of young people credit small and medium-sized enterprises for doing the most to overcome unemployment and inflation, and a similar proportion credit the large corporations for doing the most to overcome the problem of pollution (see Table A-25).

The media earn the respect of approximately two thirds of young people aged 15-24 in the Goldfarb survey (1983), while the press earns less than 50% of the confidence for respondents 18-24 years of age in the Gallup poll (1982), i.e. 44%. Crop (1983) observes that less than 50% of 18-24 year-olds trust journalists and 35% believe in advertizing. It is surprising to note that 62% of young people trust public opinion polls. The figures for adults are similar, except for public opinion polls where they are slightly lower. It is difficult to derive a constant from these figures which, except for the first item, refer to elements of the vast world of mass communications. As the results of the Crop survey (1983) show, young people are capable of differentiating and evaluating its various elements (indeed, percentages range between 35% and 62%). Confidence and respect are therefore not given indiscriminately.

The Canadian Armed Forces rank next on the list of institutions most trusted and respected by young people. They are respected by 61% of 15-24 year-olds in the Goldfarb survey (1983), and 55% of 18-24 year-olds in the Gallup poll (1982). The figure is slightly higher for the adult population (Gallup, 1982).

Governments (the government system) and the labour unions vie for last place in the respect of respondents. In the Gallup poll (1982), the Public Service earns the confidence of 52% of 18-24 year-olds, the labour unions, 42%, and Parliament 38%. Adults have more confidence in Parliament but less in unions. In the Goldfarb (1983) survey of 15-24 year-olds, the provincial governments earned the respect of 59% of respondents, the federal government, 47%, and the unions in between with the respect of 51% of young people. In the Crop survey (1983), union and political leaders earn less confidence among young people than governments (40%, 43% and 57% respectively). The figures are similar among the adult population, except for union leaders who earn a lower percentage.

In fact, unions are blamed for the current economic situation by approximately 20% of young people 18-24 years of age (6% believe they are mainly responsible and 13% believe they are second in terms of responsibility) (see Table A-26). More specifically, unions are considered mainly responsible for inflation (15%), unemployment (12%) and labour strikes (82%). Very few youths think that unions are doing the most to overcome these problems, except for strikes (26% think that they do) (see Table A-25).

As for young people's relative mistrust in government, it is probably nurtured by the fact that they hold the governments mainly responsible for the problems currently facing Canadians (see Tables A-24 and A-26). The federal government is held mainly responsible for the current state of the economy by approximately 45% of the 18-24 year-olds interviewed by Crop (1983) while 20% name it as their second choice for "being responsible". Therefore, 65% of young people blame the federal government on this issue. On the other hand, only a small percentage of youths (approximately 5%) hold the provincial governments responsible for the economic situation. However, on a second choice, a significant proportion of young people blame the provincial government, i.e. 24%. The civil service is held responsible by less than 5% of the population 18-24 years of age, both in regard to their first and second choice.

The federal government is blamed for many aspects of the Canadian economy: inflation (44%), unemployment (35%), the energy crisis (40%), economic disparities between the regions of Canada (45%). A smaller part of the blame is attributed to the provincial governments. Approximately 30% of young people aged 18-24 think that the provincial government is responsible for regional economic disparities. Approximately 20% blame it for unemployment, and only 13% for inflation.

While the federal government is held primarily responsible for the current economic situation and some of its facets by a substantial proportion of young people, it is also seen as the principal actor in finding solutions to these problems (see Table A-25). The contribution of the federal government in fighting inflation and unemployment, and in overcoming the energy crisis and the problem of economic disparities between regions is viewed as important by a significant proportion of young people. The federal government is seen as doing the most by 28% to 50% of young people. The provincial governments take second place in this respect; while relatively few young people hold them mainly responsible for these problems, a much higher proportion (ranging between 17% and 30%) perceive them as making the greatest effort to solve them. A large number of young people (approximately 26%) also give the provincial governments credit for solving strikes.

However, the role of the governments is perceived more positively with respect to the problem of pollution. While a small percentage of young people hold them responsible for causing the problem (federal government, 10%, and provincial governments, 5%), a substantial proportion view them as doing the most in solving the problem. Twenty-three percent (23%) of them give the most credit to the federal government in this area, and 21% to their provincial government. These two institutions earned the highest marks in the fight against pollution.

Data are also available on satisfaction with government performance. Young people think that the federal government is doing a generally poor job

in respect of the problems listed in Table 5.16 (see Table A-27). Less than one third of 15-24 year-olds interviewed give it a good or excellent rating. The highest rating was received for protecting the rights of French-speaking Canadians outside Quebec (31%) and the lowest, for reducing the level of unemployment (17%). It is therefore not surprising to see a mediocre rating of the federal government's general performance. Only 23% of the 15-24 year-olds find that the federal government does a fair or excellent job. In comparison, the provincial governments are rated as doing a fair job by 33% of young people. Although the figures are higher in the four surveys conducted by Crop between April and November 1983 (see Table A-28), we again observe a higher rating for the provincial governments over the federal government, a trend that is repeated among the adult population.

5.3 Political Involvement

Up to this point, we have attempted to assess the interest of young people in politics as well as their level of knowledge. We have also attempted to identify their values and determine whether they feel alienated from our society. In the previous section, we discussed the opinions of young people on contemporary issues and on the principal institutions of our society. Two other questions remain to be answered before we can conclude this chapter: Do young people identify with political, national or geographic entities? To what extent are they prepared to take concrete action to express or defend their views or values? The first question refers to the feeling of belonging to a specific group and being concerned by its present and future. It implies an emotional commitment. The second question refers to the concrete and behavioural manifestations of political participation by young people. It represents the visible aspect of participation, that which can influence the course of events.

5.3.1 Identification with a Socio-political Entity

"To belong to a collectivity is to share enough ideas and characteristics with its members that one is identified with the unit it forms" (translated) (Rocher, 1969, p. 107). The criteria which determine identification are numerous: religious, linguistic, ethnic, geographic, political, etc. Each subgroup formed determines a collectivity which becomes a unit from which individuals who belong to it derive part of their psychic and social identity. In its May 1982 poll, Gallup suggested a geographic criterion. The geographic unit to which most 18-24 year-olds feel they belong is the smallest in area and population, but also the one closest to them. Indeed, 40% of the young people first identify with the locality or town where they live, and another 15% mentioned it second. Thus, 55% of young people feel that they belong to their town or locality.

The geographic entity mentioned most as first choice, after town or locality, is the country as a whole. It was mentioned by 21% of young people while 18% indicated the province they live in. However, the order is reversed under the second choice category: 36% of young people identify with their province, and 21% with Canada. Thus, 54% of young people feel that they belong to their province and 42% to Canada. Country and province are followed by region (e.g. East, etc.) which was mentioned as first choice by only 5% of young people but by 13% as second choice, and the world as a whole, with 9% of first choices and 5% of second choices. North America received only 10% of the

votes. Thus, young people feel that they belong first of all to their locality, then to their province and country in that order. This progression from the smallest to the largest geographic entity is also observed among the adult population.

When asked to choose between a Canadian and provincial identity, 66% of 15-24 year-olds interviewed by Goldfarb (1983) say that they think of themselves first as Canadians rather than members of their province (28%) while 4% mentioned both equally (see Table 5.18). However, significant regional differences are observed. More Ontarians see themselves first as Canadians, and conversely, less as members of Ontario. On the other hand, Quebec and Maritime youths take the opposite view. They see themselves less as Canadians (38% and 57% respectively) and more as members of their province (45% and 36% respectively). Approximately 4% of them see themselves as neither. Finally, 20% of Quebec youths see themselves as both Canadians and Quebecers.

TABLE 5.18: Percentage distribution of respondents aged 15-24 by whether they think of themselves first as a Canadian or a member of their province, and by selected characteristics, Canada, May 1983

	Region						Labour Force Status				Sex		Age	
Identification	Total	Mar.	Que.	Ont.	Prair.	B.C.	Stud.	Empl.	Unemployed	Not in labour force	Men	Women	15-19	20-24
A Canadian	65.7	56.8	37.7	86.0	68.1	70.1	65.8	65.9	68.3	62.1	65.9	65.4	66.0	65.4
A member of your province	27.5	36.3	45.4	12.3	29.5	23.4	28.7	26.4	28.3	26.5	27.3	27.6	27.7	27.3
Both	4.0	0.9	10.9	1.0	1.0	4.5	3.2	5.0	0.8	5.8	3.4	4.6	3.3	4.6
Neither	2.2	4.6	4.3	0.7	1.4	1.5	1.8	1.8	2.1	5.1	2.9	1.5	2.3	2.2
Don't know/ No answer	0.6	1.4	1.7	-	-	0.5	0.5	0.9	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.8	0.7	0.5
Total*	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

* Due to rounding, totals may not add up to 100%.

Source: Goldfarb Survey, 1983. Unpublished data.

Ninety-two percent (92%) of 15-24 year-olds are proud to be Canadian (see Table 5.19). Although this figure is slightly lower in Quebec (83%), it does not vary significantly among the other provinces nor by labour force status, age or sex. Gallup asked the same question in its June 1982 poll and obtained the same answers: 94% of 18-24 year-olds are proud to be Canadian and so is 95% of the adult population.

TABLE 5.19: Percentage distribution of respondents aged 15-24 by degree of pride in being a Canadian and by selected characteristics, Canada, May 1983

Degree of pride	Region						Labour Force Status				Sex		Age	
	Total	Mar.	Que.	Ont.	Prair.	B.C.	Stud.	Empl.	Unemployed	Not in labour force	Men	Women	15-19	20-24
Very proud	59.7	67.7	36.3	68.0	69.4	66.6	57.4	61.9	67.3	52.3	57.2	62.2	60.3	59.2
Quite proud	32.4	27.6	46.7	28.5	24.2	27.9	35.0	30.8	24.7	37.0	34.4	30.4	33.0	31.9
Not very proud	5.0	3.6	10.4	2.5	3.9	3.0	4.9	4.2	5.6	7.4	4.9	5.1	4.2	5.7
Not proud at all	1.3	0.5	3.4	-	1.5	1.0	1.4	1.1	1.3	1.7	2.2	0.3	1.5	1.1
Don't know/No answer	1.6	0.5	3.2	1.0	0.9	1.5	1.2	2.0	1.1	1.5	1.3	1.8	1.0	2.1
Total*	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

* Due to rounding, totals may not add up to 100%.

Source: Goldfarb survey, 1983. Unpublished data.

This pride is accompanied by a feeling that life is good in Canada, as good and even better than in four industrialized countries mentioned in Goldfarb (1983). A small percentage of 15-24 year-olds think that they would be better off living in France (6%), West Germany (11%) or Great Britain (7%). On the other hand, only 23% think that they would be better off living in the United States and 47% think that life is as good in Canada as in the United States.

If we consider a political criterion to determine identification with a group, we find a shift of opinion in favour of the provinces. Indeed, more than half of young people 15-24 years of age feel closer to their provincial government than the federal government, whereas the opposite is true for approximately one quarter of the youths (see Table 5.20). A larger proportion of Ontarians feel closer to the federal government (30%) and a smaller proportion of Quebecers feel closer to their provincial government (48%). We also find that 24% of Quebecers and 20% of persons not in the labour force feel closer to neither level of government. From another point of view, 14% of 18-24 year-olds interviewed by Gallup consider themselves close to a federal political party, whereas 21% consider themselves close to a provincial party.

It is difficult to reconcile these seemingly contradictory results. It may be that the criteria used stirred different feelings among young people who generally identify with Canada first, but in everyday life, feel closer to the more accessible units.

TABLE 5.20: Percentage distribution of respondents aged 15-24 by level of government they feel closer to and by selected characteristics, Canada, May 1983

Level of Government	Region						Labour Force Status				Sex		Age	
	Total	Mar.	Que.	Ont.	Prair.	B.C.	Stud.	Empl.	Unemployed	Not in labour force	Men	Women	15-19	20-24
Federal Government	24.3	24.3	20.4	30.3	20.1	20.9	26.6	23.5	23.7	20.5	26.6	22.0	23.8	24.8
Provincial government	55.6	53.4	48.0	53.3	71.2	58.7	58.0	55.9	51.9	50.3	55.2	56.0	57.7	53.7
Both	2.4	2.0	3.9	2.7	0.5	1.0	1.3	2.5	4.1	3.6	3.0	1.7	2.6	2.2
Neither	14.3	17.2	23.7	11.4	6.3	11.4	11.2	14.9	16.2	20.3	13.6	15.0	12.0	16.3
Don't know /No answer	3.4	3.2	3.9	2.3	1.9	8.0	2.9	3.1	4.0	5.3	1.6	5.2	3.9	3.0
Total*	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

* Due to rounding, totals may not add up to 100%.
Source: Goldfarb survey, 1983. Unpublished data.

5.3.2 Socio-political Behaviour

Political participation does not always entail the same degree of involvement. There is a world of difference between discussing politics with friends or relatives and working for a political party. The range of involvement includes demands by interest groups and collective action both lawful and unlawful.

The CARA survey (Gallup, 1982) looked into the matter of political behaviour. It would appear that 54% of 18-24 year-olds interviewed discuss politics (occasionally or frequently) while 46% never do. Discussing politics is much more frequent among the population 25 and over (73% do while 27% never do).

Compared to adults, fewer young people indicated that they had signed a petition (56%), joined a boycott (11%), attended lawful demonstrations (11%), or joined an unofficial strike (3%) (see Table 5.21). However, the figures for adults are in the same order of magnitude and the differences observed are probably due to the fact that adults have had more opportunities to participate in such actions. This appears all the more probable as young people showed much more willingness to take these forms of action than their elders.

TABLE 5.21: Percentage distribution of respondents by whether they have actually done, might do or would never do certain forms of political action, and by age, Canada, June 1982

Form of Political Action	Has actually done		Might do		Would never do	
	18-24 yrs	25 yrs & over	18-25 yrs	25 yrs & over	18-24 yrs	25 yrs & over
Signing a petition	56.2	62.1	35.1	23.3	6.8	11.9
Joining in boycotts	10.6	15.6	50.6	40.2	32.6	40.7
Attending lawful demonstrations	10.6	13.8	58.1	39.2	28.0	44.3
Joining unofficial strikes	3.4	4.8	26.4	13.6	64.3	77.8
Occupying buildings or factories	3.1	2.1	31.4	10.3	60.2	83.4
Damaging things like breaking windows, removing road signs, etc.	2.8	0.9	4.7	2.4	91.0	95.3
Using personal violence like fighting with other demonstrators or the police	2.2	1.0	6.8	3.3	89.1	93.9

Source: CARA Study, Gallup, 1982. Special compilations.

Unlawful action, like occupying buildings or factories, damaging property or using personal violence, is more frequent among young people. However, approximately 90% of young people say that they would never take violent action like causing physical damage or using physical violence.

Despite the importance young people aged 18-24 attach to the disarmament issue and their positive attitude toward peace movements, only 6% of them have already expressed their views publicly on the matter by participating in demonstrations, meetings, or seminars on the issue (Crop, 84-1).

Finally, while 31% of young people aged 15-24 deem it important to get involved in politics (see Table A-1), very few belong to a political party or group (4% of 18-24 year-olds in the CARA survey, see Table 4.1) or do volunteer work for this type of organization (2% of 18-24 year-olds in the CARA survey, see Table A-16).

We can therefore conclude that, for a vast majority of young people, actual involvement in politics remains at the planning stage, if not simply abandoned in mid-course.

* * * * *

In summary, although only a minority of young people indicate an interest in politics, a majority seek information on international issues and disarmament. Their favourite sources of information are television, newspapers and radio.

Young people are rather moderate in their political views and subscribe heavily to the traditional values of Canadian society. They place their trust and respect mostly in organizations responsible for law enforcement and for conveying social values and standards. Governments and unions are the least respected by young people.

Identification of young people with a socio-political entity varies according to the criterion suggested. Based on geography, the 18-24 year-olds choose their town or locality first, followed by their province and their country. Also, more than half of the 15-24 year-olds feel closer to their provincial government than the federal government. On the other hand, two thirds of them see themselves first as Canadians and second as members of their province.

Finally, it would appear that actual involvement in politics remains at the planning stage for a vast majority of young people.

CONCLUSION

The purpose of this study was twofold: to describe the participation of young people aged 15-24 in activities associated with spare time: leisure, associational and political activities; and to sound the opinion of young people regarding their adjustment to society: Are young people being left out of Canadian society?

The results presented in this report suggest that rates of participation in all leisure-time activities and in consumption of socio-cultural goods and services are higher among young people than among the adult population. On the other hand, despite a very positive attitude toward volunteer work, young people participate less than adults in the associational life of their communities. Also, for a significant proportion of them, their interest in political matters and views expressed do not lead to active involvement in Canadian politics.

With respect to the second facet, available data do not point to the alienation of young people from society. On the contrary, young people favour the same values as those held dear by their elders and believe, more than adults, that they have some control over the future of their country. Although they feel more lonely than adults, they do not think about the meaning and purpose of life more than their elders do. It would seem that a majority of young people still feel comfortable in the social structure of Canada.

However, should the current economic situation persist or deteriorate, there is a strong likelihood that a sense of gloom and despair would replace the feeling of satisfaction expressed up to now. Since the beginning of the recession, society has not always managed to use the resources of young Canadians in a productive manner. A large number of young people find themselves in a kind of moratorium during which they have to depend on their parents or society until they can find productive employment which provide financial independence. The problem is compounded by the fact that, in our North American culture, work is the principal channel of social integration. Social status is dependent on occupational status and anyone who does not contribute to the economy through employment is essentially deprived of social recognition. He or she is regarded as a parasite and, in some cases, as a nuisance to his or her community.

The situation would be less tragic if society could define a social role that would be viable and fulfilling as an alternative to work. The young and not so young could thus find a social significance or purpose in life. In an interview in the fall of 1983, Léon Dion made the suggestion that, faced with a shortage of jobs, society should develop "a new concept for utilization of time". One avenue worthy of consideration would be to bring back the creative value of leisure activity which prevailed among the nobility of the pre-industrial era.

Are there any signs in the attitudes and behaviour of young Canadians that suggest that this would be possible?

Leisure activities play an important part in the lives of young people. Young people seem to value their free time more than adults and have a more positive attitude toward the prospect of a decrease in the importance of work in society. In the event that the working week were shortened without loss of salary, the three alternative activities most favoured by young people would be, in order of preference: spending time with family and friends (46%), using the spare time to study and improve oneself (42%), and spending the time following hobbies (41%). Seeking remunerated activity during spare time is attractive to only 30% of young people, and community work, only 16%. Thus, it would seem that work would be replaced by recreational and cultural activities rather than by some other form of employment or volunteer work.

Although young people plan to be active in their spare time, at present, they tend to favour passive activities over activities that require creativity and initiative. Indeed, the time spent watching television during the reference week equals the time devoted to all participatory activities as a whole. Volunteer work, which is the ideal way of participating in the life of the community, is less popular among young people than among adults.

Furthermore, available data do not indicate that young people consider leisure-time activities as a likely substitute for the formal framework of integration provided by work or studies. Indeed, the unemployed and persons not in the labour force tend to participate in leisure-time activities less than students and employed persons, and tend to prefer more passive activities like media activities. It would have been interesting to determine whether adults behave the same way by labour force status. Such comparison would have made it possible to advance theories on the respective impact of age and labour force status on the behaviour of young people.

Therefore, we cannot state that leisure activities act as a substitute for work or studies in the integration of young people in society. Rather, they seem to play a complementary role. However, the data presented in this report are incomplete; other surveys should permit a better understanding of the dynamics of the phenomenon under study. Like economic conditions, the status of leisure activities may have evolved since 1978. For this reason, it would be interesting to repeat a survey of the type conducted in 1978, despite its shortcomings. This would provide a better understanding of how current economic conditions can influence the value and meaning of leisure activities among young people.

In conclusion, we would like to see a better balance between work time and leisure time and a revalorization of leisure activities. It is not that we believe that Canadian society is prepared to fully revise its social contract, but because we believe that activities engaged in during spare time are often attempts by individuals to find ways of securing themselves in their milieu, and because these activities contribute to strengthening the fabric of society which threatens to unravel if the current situation deteriorates. Participation in leisure-time activities is all the more important for young people as they are the ones who will be negotiating the new rules of the game.

APPENDIX 1

Excerpt from the questionnaire on General Leisure Time Activities - Reading Habits, Statistics Canada, 1978.

GENERAL LEISURE TIME ACTIVITIES

QUESTION 10 CONCERNS THE NUMBER OF HOURS YOU SPENT AT CERTAIN LEISURE TIME ACTIVITIES "LAST WEEK". TO GIVE YOURSELF A TIME FRAMEWORK FOR DETERMINING THESE HOURS, TRY TO ESTIMATE FOR YOURSELF HOW MANY HOURS YOU HAD LAST WEEK FOR LEISURE TIME. FOR EXAMPLE, IF YOU WERE WORKING FULLTIME LAST WEEK YOU MIGHT ESTIMATE YOU HAD THREE HOURS FREE EACH WORKDAY EVENING, AND ON THE WEEKEND YOU HAD SIXTEEN HOURS FOR LEISURE TIME, FOR A TOTAL OF THIRTY-ONE HOURS. ANYWHERE FROM FIFTEEN TO SIXTY HOURS WOULD NORMALLY BE REASONABLE, ALTHOUGH YOUR PARTICULAR CASE MIGHT BE DIFFERENT.

10 HOW MANY HOURS DID YOU SPEND LAST WEEK ON THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES? *(ENTER NUMBER OF HOURS IN BOXES)*		**11** FOR EACH ACTIVITY MARKED "NONE" IN QUESTION 10 HAVE YOU PARTICIPATED IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS?		
A. Engaging in individual and team sports or physical exercise	☐☐ Hours **OR**	None 1○	Yes 2○	No 3○
B. Listening to records, tapes or cassettes	☐☐ Hours **OR**	None 1○	Yes 2○	No 3○
C. Watching T.V	☐☐ Hours **OR**	None 1○	Yes 2○	No 3○
D. Listening to the radio	☐☐ Hours **OR**	None 1○	Yes 2○	No 3○
E. Engaging in sculpture, painting and drawing, film, photography and other arts activities	☐☐ Hours **OR**	None 1○	Yes 2○	No 3○
F. Playing a musical instrument, or voice practice	☐☐ Hours **OR**	None 1○	Yes 2○	No 3○
G. Visiting or talking to friends or relatives	☐☐ Hours **OR**	None 1○	Yes 2○	No 3○
H. Engaging in volunteer work, community affairs, clubs,etc	☐☐ Hours **OR**	None 1○	Yes 2○	No 3○
I. Going out (eg. dining out, going to theatre, etc.)	☐☐ Hours **OR**	None 1○	Yes 2○	No 3○
J. As a leisure time activity, taking lessons or formal instruction (degree or non-degree course)	☐☐ Hours **OR**	None 1○	Yes 2○	No 3○
K. Engaging in hobby or craft activities	☐☐ Hours **OR**	None 1○	Yes 2○	No 3○
L. Relaxing, reflecting, resting, planning	☐☐ Hours **OR**	None 1○	Yes 2○	No 3○
M. Reading books, magazines or newspapers as a leisure time activity	☐☐ Hours **OR**	None 1○	Yes 2○	No 3○ *

* IF "NO" IN 11 "M" END AFTER QUESTION 11

12 HOW MANY TIMES SINCE JANUARY 1ST, 1978, HAVE YOU VISITED OR ATTENDED ANY OF THE FOLLOWING?		**13** FOR EACH CATEGORY MARKED "NONE" IN QUESTION 12, HAVE YOU VISITED OR ATTENDED IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS?		
A. A museum (general, science and technology, historical, Maritime museum, etc.)	☐☐ Times **OR**	None 1○	Yes 2○	No 3○
B. An art gallery or art museum	☐☐ Times **OR**	None 1○	Yes 2○	No 3○
C. A public library	☐☐ Times **OR**	None 1○	Yes 2○	No 3○
D. A bookstore	☐☐ Times **OR**	None 1○	Yes 2○	No 3○
E. A movie shown by a commercial theatre, drive-in, film club, etc.	☐☐ Times **OR**	None 1○	Yes 2○	No 3○
F. A folk, rock, jazz, or pop music performance or recital	☐☐ Times **OR**	None 1○	Yes 2○	No 3○
G. A classical music or dance performance or recital (orchestral concert, opera, ballet,etc.)	☐☐ Times **OR**	None 1○	Yes 2○	No 3○
H. A sport event as a spectator	☐☐ Times **OR**	None 1○	Yes 2○	No 3○
I. A live theatre performance (drama, comedy, or musical comedy)	☐☐ Times **OR**	None 1○	Yes 2○	No 3○
J. An art or craft fair or festival	☐☐ Times **OR**	None 1○	Yes 2○	No 3○
K. Zoo, circus, or other live performance	☐☐ Times **OR**	None 1○	Yes 2○	No 3○

APPENDIX 2

Statistical Appendix

TABLE A-1: Percentage of respondents aged 15-24 who think that each of the goals or aspirations mentioned is very important or moderately important in their life, by selected characteristics, Canada, 1983

		Region					Labour Force Status				Sex		Age	
	Total	Maritimes	Que.	Ont.	Prair.	B.C.	Student	Employed	Unemployed	Not in labour force	Men	Women	15-19 yrs	20-24 yrs
Furthering your education	85.7	91.4	82.5	85.8	85.6	88.5	98.7	81.0	78.5	68.6	87.1	84.3	91.3	81.0
Having a job	96.6	98.4	97.4	95.0	97.0	97.5	99.5	99.3	98.1	76.8	98.1	95.1	98.9	94.6
Travelling	80.2	75.2	83.4	76.5	81.3	87.1	84.6	80.9	73.3	70.3	77.8	82.7	80.6	79.9
Doing volunteer work	62.0	66.8	68.4	55.8	65.1	57.6	65.9	59.2	59.9	61.2	55.1	68.9	64.0	60.2
Having leisure time	91.6	90.8	96.1	87.8	92.1	93.1	91.2	93.3	86.8	91.2	91.2	92.0	92.4	90.9
Getting involved in politics	31.3	23.0	32.8	28.8	38.3	32.3	33.1	30.3	34.7	26.6	31.4	31.2	28.6	33.7
Being successful at whatever you do	97.6	94.0	98.3	97.5	98.5	98.5	98.1	97.9	96.9	96.2	98.5	96.8	97.8	97.5
Making a lot of money	83.9	80.7	91.3	80.3	82.4	83.1	85.0	85.4	85.3	73.9	86.9	80.8	88.0	80.4
Having a stable fulfilling family life	95.8	97.5	95.8	94.9	97.0	95.0	97.0	95.1	92.6	97.1	94.1	97.5	97.1	94.6
Having a lot of friends	91.9	91.7	95.8	90.2	91.1	89.6	92.5	91.6	88.8	93.5	91.4	92.4	93.8	90.2
Owning a home	86.7	87.8	85.3	86.2	88.2	88.1	88.7	87.2	85.2	80.2	85.9	87.4	88.8	84.8

Source: Goldfarb survey, 1983. Unpublished data.

TABLE A-2: Percentage of respondents who have decided to make expenditures of over $150 within the next six months, by type of expenditure, age and sex, Canada, April 1983

Age and Sex	Home recreational equipment (TV, stereo, musical instruments)			Sports and leisure equipment (skis, boat, golf clubs, etc.)			Vacation and travel		
	Yes	No	Don't know	Yes	No	Don't know	Yes	No	Don't know
Total									
Men	14	86	1	18	81	2	52	45	3
Women	8	91	0	9	91	0	48	49	3
18-24 years									
Men	34	65	1	41	58	1	49	50	2
Women	20	80	0	18	81	0	57	42	1
25 years & over									
Men	9	91	0	12	86	2	53	44	3
Women	6	93	0	7	93	0	46	51	3

Source: The Crop Report, 83-3, question 13. Special compilations.

TABLE A-3: Average number of hours reported for various categories of leisure-time activities in the reference week, by age and sex, and for the 15-24 age group, by selected characteristics, Canada, 1978

Characteristic	Media activities	Participatory activities	Social activities	Relaxing, planning
Age and Sex				
Both sexes	31.8	10.9	11.9	7.2
15-19 years	33.6	15.7	17.2	7.2
20-24 years	32.3	11.2	14.8	7.4
15-24 years	**32.9**	**13.5**	**16.0**	**7.3**
25 years & over	31.3	9.8	10.5	7.1
Men	30.0	10.3	11.4	7.3
15-19 years	32.8	16.8	16.3	7.5
20-24 years	31.2	11.5	14.6	7.5
15-24 years	32.1	14.2	15.4	7.5
25 years & over	29.2	9.0	10.0	7.3
Women	33.4	11.2	12.4	7.0
15-19 years	34.3	14.5	18.1	6.8
20-24 years	33.3	10.8	14.9	7.2
15-24 years	33.8	12.8	16.5	7.0
25 years & over	33.3	10.6	11.0	7.0
Total (15-24 yrs)	**32.9**	**13.5**	**16.0**	**7.3**
Region				
Maritimes	34.6	12.5	16.2	7.7
Quebec	32.3	14.3	13.6	6.3
Ontario	33.0	13.9	16.7	7.7
Prairies	32.4	12.4	17.7	7.7
British Columbia	33.9	13.0	17.4	7.7
Environment				
Urban	33.1	13.6	16.1	7.3
Rural	32.2	12.8	15.7	7.2
Marital Status				
Single	32.5	14.9	16.8	7.1
Married	33.6	9.3	13.6	7.6
Other	47.0	8.6	16.4	10.5
Mother Tongue (M.T.)				
English	33.2	12.9	17.0	7.7
French	32.5	14.0	13.8	6.0
English and French	35.5	15.8	17.7	8.0
Other	30.5	13.9	14.3	7.5
Language Spoken at Home (L.S.H.)				
English	33.1	13.3	17.0	7.8
French	32.5	14.1	13.8	6.0
English and French	32.6	15.9	14.5	7.4
Other	31.4	13.0	14.8	7.1
Education				
0-8 years	33.3	12.9	12.8	7.0
9-13 years	34.4	13.4	16.5	7.4
Some post-sec	29.6	15.4	16.3	7.4
Certificate/diploma	30.2	12.8	14.5	7.1
University degree	25.6	10.7	14.3	5.5
Labour Force Status				
Not in labour force	38.9	9.0	15.2	7.4
Unemployed	41.7	12.3	18.0	9.3
Employed	32.0	10.7	15.8	7.3
Student	30.9	17.1	16.0	6.9

Source: Tables 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5.

TABLE A-4: Percentage distribution of respondents by preferred type of program, age and sex, Canada, November 1983

Type of Program	Total		18-24 years		25 years & over	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Science and technology	21	12	19	10	22	12
News and general information	14	13	7	3	15	15
Soap operas	4	18	3	23	4	17
Mini-series	8	18	8	20	8	18
Sports	22	3	29	3	21	3
Movies	21	22	25	30	20	21
Variety shows	7	6	8	5	6	6
Game shows	1	5	0	3	1	5
Don't know/No answer/ Other types	3	4	3	2	3	4
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100

Note: Due to rounding, totals may not add up to 100%.

Source: The Crop Report, 84-1, question 18. Special compilations.

TABLE A-5: Percentage distribution of respondents by opinion on amount of selected types of programming, age and sex, Canada, November 1983.

Type of Program and Opinion	Total		18-24 yrs		25 yrs & over	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Science and technology						
Too much	5	5	5	4	4	5
Enough	31	42	28	40	32	43
Too little	57	42	64	49	56	41
Don't know/No answer	7	11	3	7	8	11
News and general information						
Too much	11	8	17	15	9	7
Enough	76	80	69	80	77	80
Too little	13	11	14	5	13	12
Don't know/No answer	1	1	0	0	1	1
Soap operas						
Too much	59	45	69	46	57	45
Enough	28	41	29	48	28	40
Too little	4	7	2	6	4	7
Don't know/No answer	9	7	0	1	11	8
Mini-series						
Too much	16	10	8	9	17	11
Enough	44	45	41	37	44	46
Too little	34	39	49	53	30	36
Don't know/No answer	7	7	2	1	8	7
Sports						
Too much	30	51	25	54	31	50
Enough	51	41	49	40	51	41
Too little	18	4	25	4	16	4
Don't know/No answer	2	5	0	1	2	5
Movies						
Too much	8	6	7	1	8	6
Enough	54	59	48	59	56	59
Too little	34	32	44	40	32	30
Don't know/No answer	4	4	1	0	4	5
Variety						
Too much	11	7	18	10	9	7
Enough	56	54	58	55	55	54
Too little	27	31	23	34	28	31
Don't know/No answer	6	8	1	2	7	9
Game shows						
Too much	47	33	59	47	45	31
Enough	39	50	37	46	39	50
Too little	6	10	3	6	6	11
Don't know/No answer	8	7	1	2	10	8

Source: The Crop report, 84-1, question 17. Special compilations.

TABLE A-6: Percentage distribution of respondents by where they usually do their physical activities in their leisure time, age and sex, and for the 15-24 age group, by selected characteristics, Canada, 1981

Characteristic	Home	Park	Commercial facility or private club	Work	Recreational facility	Outside using no special facility	School, college or university facility	Other
Age and Sex								
Both sexes	44.4	12.9	13.0	8.8	21.2	38.7	10.6	5.3
15-19 years	44.6	18.1	11.9	8.7	28.0	41.6	43.6	7.4Q
20-24 years	44.9	19.2	15.3	10.3	29.9	42.9	18.9	6.0Q
15-24 years	**44.7**	**18.7**	**13.6**	**9.5**	**29.0**	**42.2**	**31.2**	**6.7**
25 years & over	44.3	11.0	12.7	8.6	18.6	37.5	3.8	4.9
Men	39.3	15.8	14.8	12.3	23.8	37.9	12.0	5.8
15-19 years	42.3	19.7	12.6	10.8	32.2	38.2	45.9	8.9Q
20-24 years	38.9	25.1	17.2	13.2	33.9	44.0	23.1	-
15-24 years	40.6	22.4	14.9	12.0	33.0	41.1	34.5	7.8
25 years & over	38.9	13.5	14.7	12.4	20.7	36.9	4.4	5.1
Women	49.3	10.1	11.2	5.4	18.6	39.4	9.2	4.8
15-19 years	47.0	16.4	11.3	6.6	23.7	45.1	41.2	-
20-24 years	50.9	13.3	13.5	7.5Q	25.9	41.8	14.7	-
15-24 years	49.0	14.8	12.4	7.0	24.8	43.4	27.7	5.6Q
25 years & over	49.4	8.6	10.9	4.9	16.7	38.1	3.3	4.6
Total (15-24 yrs)	**44.7**	**18.7**	**13.6**	**9.5**	**29.0**	**42.2**	**31.2**	**6.7**
Region								
Maritimes	45.3	8.1Q	-	-	25.4	48.8	25.7	-
Quebec	35.9	16.7	12.6	-	31.8	51.0	32.3	-
Ontario	49.6	18.1	13.5	9.5Q	23.9	36.5	32.9	-
Prairies	47.2	23.2	16.4	14.0	33.2	37.9	31.3	-
British Columbia	47.2	26.8	17.7	12.8Q	34.0	39.8	27.4	-
Environment								
Urban	44.3	21.3	15.2	9.1	29.7	41.0	32.3	6.6Q
Rural	46.3	9.7Q	8.3Q	11.1	26.6	46.3	27.4	7.2Q
Education								
0-8 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9-13 years	45.2	18.6	12.3	9.7	28.0	41.5	29.5	6.7
Some post-sec	45.6	20.3	20.0	-	31.4	47.0	33.6	-
Certificate/diploma	45.5	18.4	14.2	8.6Q	30.6	42.4	29.0	-
University degree	36.0	19.4Q	17.5Q	-	37.7	46.9	45.9	-
Labour Force Status								
Not in labour force	51.9	-	-	-	18.1	39.9	-	-
Unemployed	54.4	17.2Q	-	-	26.7	50.4	-	-
Employed	44.1	21.1	16.5	15.2	30.7	42.3	11.4	-
Student	42.8	18.1	12.2	5.6Q	29.4	41.3	57.6	7.1Q

-: Sample too small to be representative
Q: Very high sample variance
Source: Canada Fitness Survey, 1981. Special compilations.

TABLE A-7: Percentage distribution of respondents by when they usually do their physical activities, age and sex, and for the 15-24 age group, by selected characteristics, Canada, 1981

Characteristic	Weekdays	Weekends	Both	Unknown
Age and Sex				
Both sexes	20.6	16.9	53.4	9.1
15-19 years	19.0	14.9	64.0	-
20-24 years	17.9	19.3	59.7	-
15-24 years	**18.4**	**17.1**	**61.8**	-
25 years & over	21.3	16.9	50.6	11.2
Men	16.8	19.3	56.0	8.0
15-19 years	17.1	12.6	67.8	-
20-24 years	13.6	21.3	63.1	-
15-24 years	15.4	17.0	65.5	-
25 years & over	17.2	20.0	52.8	9.9
Women	24.3	14.7	50.8	10.2
15-19 years	21.0	17.2	59.9	-
20-24 years	22.1	17.3	56.2	-
15-24 years	21.6	17.3	58.1	-
25 years & over	25.1	13.9	48.5	12.5
Total (15-24 yrs)	**18.4**	**17.1**	**61.8**	-
Region				
Maritimes	17.2	18.5	62.6	-
Quebec	20.7	16.2	58.7	-
Ontario	18.5	17.6	61.1	-
Prairies	17.7	17.5	63.5	-
British Columbia	14.4Q	16.0	68.5	-
Environment				
Urban	18.5	17.6	61.4	-
Rural	18.1	15.5	63.2	-
Education				
0-8 years	-	-	46.9	-
9-13 years	18.6	16.8	61.5	-
Some post-sec	14.9	17.3	66.7	-
Certificate/diploma	20.9	17.8	60.6	-
University degree	15.1Q	18.3Q	65.2	-
Labour Force Status				
Not in labour force	23.8	-	53.0	-
Unemployed	19.4Q	19.7	59.5	-
Employed	17.6	19.9	59.6	-
Student	18.2	14.5	66.0	-

-: Sample too small to be representative
Q: Very high sample variance
Source: Canada Fitness Survey, 1981. Special compilations.

TABLE A-8: Percentage distribution of respondents by with whom they usually do their physical activities in their leisure time, age and sex, and for the 15-24 age group, by selected characteristics, Canada, 1981

Characteristic	No one	Friends	Relatives	Co-workers	Classmates	Other
Age and Sex						
Both sexes	31	42	32	4	4	4
15-19 years	21	68	16	-	23	-
20-24 years	26	61	25	7Q	-	-
15-24 years	**24**	**65**	**20**	**5Q**	**14**	-
25 years & over	34	35	36	4	-	4
Men	29	46	29	6	4	4
15-19 years	21	68	13	-	24	-
20-24 years	23	69	18	8	7Q	-
15-24 years	22	68	16	6Q	16	-
25 years & over	32	38	34	6	-	5Q
Women	33	39	35	-	3Q	-
15-19 years	22	68	18	-	22	-
20-24 years	30	53	31	-	-	-
15-24 years	26	61	25	-	13	-
25 years & over	36	33	38	-	-	4Q
Total (15-24 yrs)	**24**	**65**	**20**	**5Q**	**14**	-
Region						
Maritimes	24	61	19	-	12	-
Quebec	20	65	22	-	16	-
Ontario	26	63	19	-	15	-
Prairies	24	67	23	-	14	-
British Columbia	25	66	17	-	11Q	-
Environment						
Urban	25	65	19	5Q	14	-
Rural	21	62	23	-	16	-
Education						
0-8 years	37Q	41	-	-	-	-
9-13 years	21	64	21	-	16	-
Some post-sec	27	68	20	-	11Q	-
Certificate/diploma	28	66	20	-	-	-
University degree	32	63	18Q	-	18Q	-
Labour Force Status						
Not in labour force	26	44	34	-	-	-
Unemployed	30	66	20	-	-	-
Employed	24	64	23	8	-	-
Student	23	69	15	-	29	-

-: Sample too small to be representative
Q: Very high sample variance
Source: Canada Fitness Survey, 1981. Special compilations.

TABLE A-9: Percentage distribution of respondents by why they do physical activities during their leisure time, age and sex, and for the 15-24 age group, by selected characteristics, Canada, 1981

Characteristic	To feel better mentally and physically	To be with other people	For pleasure, fun or excitement	To control weight, look better	To move better or to improve flexibility	As a challenge	To relax or reduce stress	To learn new things	To improve one's health (specialist's advice)	Therapy or rehabilitation (doctor's orders)
Age and Sex										
Both sexes	61	23	42	42	39	20	35	17	18	23
15-19 years	55	25	54	43	36	28	22	19	14	15
20-24 years	64	21	51	44	36	23	31	19	15	15
15-24 years	**60**	**23**	**53**	**44**	**36**	**26**	**26**	**19**	**14**	**15**
25 years & over	61	22	39	41	40	18	38	17	19	25
Men	59	19	43	33	36	22	33	16	16	20
15-19 years	55	22	54	32	36	32	19	17	12	13
20-24 years	62	22	54	32	35	28	28	19	13	12
15-24 years	59	22	54	32	36	30	24	18	13	12
25 years & over	59	18	39	33	36	19	36	15	17	22
Women	63	26	41	51	43	17	38	19	20	25
15-19 years	55	29	54	55	35	24	25	20	16	18
20-24 years	66	19	48	56	38	18	34	18	17	18
15-24 years	61	24	51	56	36	21	29	19	16	18
25 years & over	64	26	38	49	45	16	41	19	22	28
Total (15-24 yrs)	**60**	**23**	**53**	**44**	**36**	**26**	**26**	**19**	**14**	**15**
Region										
Maritimes	57	29	55	49	39	28	26	24	17	22
Quebec	61	17	47	34	33	17	25	11	16	13
Ontario	62	27	54	48	38	30	29	21	15	17
Prairies	55	27	56	46	34	29	25	22	12	16
British Columbia	59	16	53	46	37	27	23	20	-	-
Environment										
Urban	63	22	52	44	37	27	27	19	15	15
Rural	49	27	54	41	31	22	23	18	13	16
Education										
0-8 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9-13 years	56	25	53	44	37	26	25	20	17	17
Some post-sec	66	23	50	44	36	24	27	19	-	11Q
Certificate/diploma	66	18	55	44	35	25	31	15	13Q	12Q
University degree	75	16	54	42	33	20	35	12	8	9
Labour Force Status										
Not in labour force	57	26	44	45	33	21	35	22	23	27
Unemployed	59	24	49	47	41	24	28	25	24	19
Employed	60	22	51	45	36	25	28	18	14	14
Student	60	24	57	42	36	27	23	18	11	14

-: Sample too small to be representative
Q: Very high sample variance
Source: Canada Fitness Survey, 1981. Special compilations.

TABLE A-10: Rates of participation in selected leisure-time activities[1], during previous 12 months, by age and sex, Canada, 1975[2] and 1978

Characteristic	Physical exercise		Records, tapes, cassettes		Television		Radio		Visual arts		Musical arts		Lessons or formal instruction		Hobby, craft		Reading	
	1976	1978	1975	1978	1975	1978	1975	1978	1975	1978	1975	1978	1975	1978	1975	1978	1975	1978
Age and Sex																		
Both sexes	49	61.8	64.7	76.3	95.9	96.5	84.3	90.7	14.9	30.6	13.7	19.6	21.9	21.8	38.9	51.3	80.4	91.5
15-19 years	77	85.2	88.7	95.0	97.2	97.5	91.0	94.3	23.2	51.2	25.0	39.6	37.7	32.9	42.1	60.3	75.3	92.4
20-24 years	66	78.9	81.1	93.6	96.1	97.6	87.5	93.7	22.4	41.2	17.4	28.1	28.8	32.0	43.8	59.8	78.8	93.8
15-24 years	72	82.1	85.0	94.3	96.6	97.5	89.3	94.0	22.8	46.3	21.3	33.9	33.4	32.4	42.9	60.1	77.0	93.1
25 years & over	41	54.7	57.4	70.0	95.7	96.1	82.6	89.6	12.0	25.1	11.0	14.5	18.0	18.1	37.4	48.3	81.6	90.9
Men	54	65.5	64.4	76.8	95.8	96.8	83.8	91.0	14.5	29.3	13.4	19.0	19.2	19.6	33.5	43.5	77.4	90.8
15-19 years	79	86.5	88.3	94.6	96.9	98.0	89.3	93.8	18.6	46.7	22.8	36.5	33.1	29.2	38.9	54.5	69.4	89.6
20-24 years	70	83.1	81.2	94.2	95.7	97.9	87.0	94.5	21.1	36.1	18.6	27.0	23.7	29.2	37.9	52.5	74.1	93.3
15-24 years	75	84.9	84.8	94.4	96.3	98.0	88.2	94.1	19.8	41.5	20.8	31.9	28.5	29.2	38.4	53.5	71.7	91.4
25 years & over	46	58.5	56.7	70.3	95.6	96.4	82.1	89.8	12.5	24.8	10.7	14.3	15.8	16.1	31.6	39.8	79.6	90.6
Women	45	58.2	65.0	75.8	96.1	96.2	84.9	90.5	15.2	31.9	13.9	20.1	24.5	24.0	44.2	58.9	83.3	92.1
15-19 years	75	83.8	89.2	95.3	97.6	96.8	92.7	94.7	28.1	56.0	27.3	42.7	42.4	36.6	45.5	66.4	81.4	95.3
20-24 years	63	74.5	81.0	92.9	96.4	97.3	88.0	92.8	23.7	46.3	16.2	29.2	34.0	34.9	49.9	67.3	83.7	94.4
15-24 years	69	79.2	85.2	94.1	97.0	97.1	90.4	93.8	25.9	51.2	21.8	36.0	38.3	35.8	47.7	66.8	82.6	94.9
25 years & over	36	51.0	58.0	69.6	95.8	95.9	83.0	89.3	11.6	25.4	11.2	14.7	20.0	20.0	43.0	56.3	83.6	91.2

[1] See Appendix 1, question 10, for the content of each item.
[2] Except for physical exercise for which the reference year is 1976.

Sources: Statistics Canada, Survey of Leisure-Time Activities, 1975 and 1978. Special compilations.
Survey of Fitness, Physical Recreation and Sport, 1976. Special compilations.

TABLE A-11: Rates of visit or attendance (%) at cultural events[1], by age and sex, Canada 1975 and 1978

Characteristic	Museum (other than art museum)		Art gallery or art museum		Library		Movie in a commercial theatre		Theatre		Non-classical music		Classical music	
	1975	1978	1975	1978	1975	1978	1975	1978	1975	1978	1975	1978	1975	1978
Age and Sex														
Both sexes	24.5	31.2	21.2	21.3	28.0	36.9	53.4	57.1	16.7	25.5	19.9	27.3	10.6	19.3
15-19 years	30.8	37.2	26.1	21.6	51.4	59.4	76.6	81.6	22.6	34.5	48.6	54.1	10.2	22.9
20-24 years	28.8	38.3	25.5	25.9	33.2	43.6	77.5	80.9	18.4	28.0	37.1	49.4	10.7	20.7
15-24 years	**29.8**	**37.7**	**25.8**	**23.7**	**42.5**	**51.7**	**77.0**	**81.3**	**20.6**	**31.3**	**43.0**	**51.8**	**10.5**	**21.8**
25 years & over	22.5	28.8	19.6	20.5	22.9	31.7	44.8	48.6	15.3	23.5	11.6	18.6	8.6	18.5
Men	23.9	31.1	19.3	20.1	24.8	34.1	54.2	58.6	13.7	22.0	20.1	28.0	8.4	16.5
15-19 years	28.7	36.2	21.7	19.5	45.0	54.9	75.8	80.3	16.3	28.0	47.5	54.7	6.9	20.0
20-24 years	27.4	36.4	23.6	23.3	31.6	40.8	77.1	81.8	15.1	23.6	38.3	52.9	9.2	17.7
15-24 years	28.1	36.3	22.6	21.3	38.5	48.1	76.4	81.0	15.7	25.9	43.0	53.8	8.0	18.9
25 years & over	22.4	29.2	18.1	19.6	19.7	29.0	45.6	50.4	13.0	20.6	11.5	18.5	12.6	15.6
Women	25.0	31.2	23.0	22.6	31.2	39.6	52.7	55.7	19.4	28.9	19.7	26.6	12.7	22.1
15-19 years	33.0	38.2	30.5	23.7	58.0	64.0	77.5	82.9	29.2	41.2	49.7	53.6	13.8	25.9
20-24 years	30.2	40.1	27.5	28.6	34.8	46.4	77.9	80.1	21.7	32.5	35.9	46.0	12.4	23.9
15-24 years	31.6	39.1	29.0	26.1	46.6	55.4	77.7	81.5	25.5	36.9	42.9	49.8	13.1	24.9
25 years & over	22.7	28.5	21.0	21.4	26.0	34.2	44.1	47.0	17.4	26.2	11.7	18.7	10.6	21.1

[1] See Appendix 1, question 12, for the content of each item.

Sources: Survey of Leisure-Time Activities, 1975 and 1978. Special compilations.

TABLE A-12: Percentage distribution of respondents by opinion on whether people today are more willing or less willing to help each other than they were ten years ago, by age group, Canada, June 1982

Opinion	Total	18-24 years	25 years & over
More willing	12.8	14.9	12.1
Less willing	67.0	64.3	67.9
Equally willing	16.2	14.6	16.7
Don't know	4.0	6.2	3.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Note: Due to roundings, totals may not add up to 100%.

Source: CARA survey, Gallup, 1982. Special compilations.

TABLE A-13: Percentage distribution of respondents by opinion on whether charities and voluntary organizations should be controlled by the government, and by age group, Canada, June 1982

Opinion	Total	18-24 years	25 years and over
Should be closely controlled by government	23.6	23.0	23.8
Should be free from government control	67.7	68.6	67.4
Don't know	8.7	8.4	8.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Note: Due to rounding, totals may not add up to 100%

Source: CARA survey, Gallup 1982. Special compilations.

TABLE A-14: Percentage of unemployed respondents aged 15-24 who would be willing to take various measures to improve their chances of getting a job, by selected characteristics, Canada, May 1983

Measure	Total	Region					Sex		Age	
		Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Prairies	B.C.	Men	Women	15-19	20-24
- Accept a job not in your field	85.7	85.6	88.8	87.5	77.7	85.9	84.9	86.8	97.9	79.5
- Move to another province	50.4	58.6	47.9	51.8	54.7	38.1	63.3	32.6	54.4	48.4
- Get specific training at school	87.2	82.2	80.4	90.2	86.3	100.0	90.1	83.2	86.3	87.8
- Accept a part-time job	86.4	95.1	90.2	83.8	81.6	85.9	86.6	86.2	96.7	81.2
- Consider joining the Canadian Armed Forces	20.7	28.0	15.9	25.8	9.0	28.4	26.8	12.3	31.6	15.2
- Learn Canada's other official language	45.8	54.5	71.1	29.1	32.6	52.5	43.5	49.0	52.7	42.2
- Do volunteer work in order to get some experience	63.5	76.5	61.0	58.8	76.3	52.4	53.2	77.8	66.7	61.8
- Accept a job for which you are overqualified	85.1	82.6	81.4	81.6	95.5	90.4	89.1	79.5	88.2	83.5

Source: Goldfarb survey, 1983. Unpublished data.

TABLE A-15: Percentage distribution of respondents by what they would do if the government and employers agreed to shorten the working week to 3 days but continue to offer the same pay as for a full week, and by age group, Canada, June 1982

Use of Spare Time	Total	18-24 years	25 years and over
Work 3 days for your employer and then attempt to find extra work for the rest of the week to earn more money	24.0	29.1	21.9
Use the spare time to study or improve yourself	37.1	42.2	35.0
Spend the time with family and friends	51.9	45.7	54.5
To avoid getting bored, find some additional work even if this doesn't bring in much extra cash	18.2	21.1	17.0
Use the spare time to do something for your local community, e.g. voluntary work, local politics, the church, etc.	21.4	15.6	23.7
Spend your time following your hobbies	43.9	40.7	45.1
Run your own little business in your spare time	16.9	16.6	17.0
Spend the time relaxing, not doing anything special	17.9	16.6	18.4
None of these	1.9	1.0	2.2
Don't know	1.4	2.0	1.2

Source: CARA survey, Gallup 1982. Special compilations.

TABLE A-16: Percentage distribution of respondents by group for which they did voluntary work, and by age group, Canada, June 1982

Voluntary Group	Total	18-24 years	25 years and over
Charity concerned with the welfare of people	9.0	2.8	11.2
Church or religious organization	14.8	8.7	17.0
Education or arts group	5.3	3.4	5.9
Labour union	1.5	-	1.7
Political party or group	3.3	2.2	3.6
Organization concerned with human rights at home and abroad	1.5	-	1.8
Conservation. environmentalist or animal welfare group	1.9	2.2	1.8
Youth work (e.g. scouts, guides, youth clubs, etc.)	8.0	8.7	7.7
Consumer group	1.1	-	1.4
Professional association	3.7	-	4.7
None of these	68.3	79.2	64.5

-: Less than 1%.

Source: CARA survey, Gallup 1982. Special compilations.

TABLE A-17: Percentage distribution of respondents aged 15-24 by group for which they did volunteer work and selected characteristics, Canada, May 1983

Voluntary Group	Total	Région					Occupation				Sexe		Age	
		Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Prairies	B.C.	Stud.	Empl.	Unempl.	Not in labour force	Men	Women	15-19 years	20-24 years
Charity that provides assistance to disadvantaged people (e.g. United Way, Salvation Army)	3.2	9.0	2.0	2.2	5.4	1.0	3.9	3.2	1.9	2.3	2.3	4.1	2.0	4.3
Conservationist/ environmentalist group	-	1.1	-	-	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Church or religious organization	6.5	7.2	1.0	8.7	9.1	8.0	8.2	6.1	4.3	4.8	5.2	7.9	7.2	5.9
Sports club	5.8	8.3	6.5	5.2	5.4	4.5	7.2	4.8	6.1	4.4	6.7	4.8	6.0	5.6
Student federation	2.1	6.9	-	2.4	2.5	-	4.3	1.2	-	-	1.8	2.5	3.2	1.2
Organization concerned with human rights	1.0	2.1	-	-	1.0	1.0	1.3	-	-	1.3	-	1.1	1.0	1.0
Youth-serving agency or club (YMCA - YWCA)	2.3	3.1	2.0	2.3	3.4	-	3.3	2.1	-	1.4	2.0	2.6	2.8	1.8
Agency or home for unwed mothers, rape crisis centre, distress line	-	2.6	-	-	-	-	2.0	-	-	-	-	1.3	1.2	-
Theatre or arts group	3.1	2.5	7.0	-	3.4	1.0	3.0	3.4	4.0	1.5	3.1	3.1	2.5	3.6
Other	7.4	7.7	-	11.1	5.9	14.9	9.5	6.2	7.3	5.2	7.3	7.5	7.8	7.0
None	58.2	52.7	79.6	48.1	50.9	56.6	52.2	62.1	58.8	63.2	58.8	57.7	58.1	58.4
No answer	17.8	16.9	4.3	26.3	22.5	15.6	18.2	15.8	20.6	20.9	18.8	16.7	16.9	18.5

-: Less than 1%.
Source: Goldfarb survey, 1983. Unpublished data.

TABLE A-18: Number and percentage distribution of the working-age population and of persons who did volunteer work in the reference year and reference week, by age and sex, Canada 1980

Age and Sex	Working-age population		Did volunteer work in the reference year		Did volunteer work in the reference week	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Total	17 886	100.0	2 772	100.0	1 508	100.0
15-19 years	2 315	12.9	218	8.0	122	8.1
20-24 years	2 262	12.7	210	7.7	94	6.2
15-24 years	**4 577**	**25.6**	**428**	**15.7**	**216**	**14.3**
25 years & over	13 310	74.4	2 294	84.3	1 292	85.7
Men	8 769	100.0	1 248	100.0	702	100.0
15-19 years	1 179	13.5	95	7.6	55	7.8
20-24 years	1 135	12.9	114	9.1	48	6.9
15-24 years	2 314	26.4	209	16.7	103	14.7
25 years & over	6 456	73.6	1 040	83.3	599	85.3
Women	9 117	100.0	1 474	100.0	805	100.0
15-19 years	1 136	12.5	123	8.4	67	8.3
20-24 years	1 127	12.4	96	6.5	46	5.7
15-24 years	2 263	24.9	219	14.9	113	14.0
25 years & over	6 854	75.1	1 255	85.1	692	86.0

Source: Statistics Canada, An Overview of Volunteer Workers in Canada, 1980, Table 6. Catalogue 71-530.

TABLE A-19: Percentage distribution of persons who did volunteer work in the reference year, by age, sex and marital status, Canada, 1980

Age and Sex	Total	Married	Single	Other
Total	100.0	74.5	17.7	7.8
15-19 years	100.0	-	98.1	-
20-24 years	100.0	36.6	62.5	-
15-24 years	**100.0**	**18.9**	**80.6**	-
25 years & over	100.0	84.9	6.0	9.1
Men	100.0	76.7	19.5	3.8
15-19 years	100.0	-	99.8	-
20-24 years	100.0	32.0	67.2	-
15-24 years	100.0	17.2	81.8	-
25 years & over	100.0	88.6	7.0	4.4
Women	100.0	72.7	16.2	11.2
15-19 years	100.0	-	96.8	-
20-24 years	100.0	42.0	57.0	-
15-24 years	100.0	20.1	79.4	-
25 years & over	100.0	81.8	5.1	13.1

Source: Statistics Canada, An Overview of Volunteer Workers in Canada, 1978, table 7B. Catalogue 71-530.

TABLE A-20: Percentage distribution of persons who did volunteer work in the reference year, by age, sex and education, Canada, 1980

Age and Sex	Total	0-8 yrs	9-13 yrs	Some post-secondary	Post-secondary certif./diploma	University degree
Total	100.0	11.1	49.2	10.2	15.1	14.4
15-19 years	100.0	-	82.1	13.3	-	-
20-24 years	100.0	-	48.1	21.4	18.9	10.7
15-24 years	**100.0**	-	**65.4**	**17.3**	**10.3**	**5.1**
25 years & over	100.0	12.9	46.2	8.8	16.0	16.1
Men	100.0	11.4	45.6	11.1	12.3	19.5
15-19 years	100.0	-	81.2	-	-	-
20-24 years	100.0	-	54.1	17.4	18.0	-
15-24 years	100.0	-	66.0	15.8	10.5	-
25 years & over	100.0	13.3	41.4	10.2	12.7	22.4
Women	100.0	10.8	52.3	9.4	17.5	10.1
15-19 years	100.0	-	82.7	13.7	-	-
20-24 years	100.0	-	41.1	26.1	19.9	-
15-24 years	100.0	-	63.9	19.2	9.6	-
25 years & over	100.0	12.5	50.1	7.7	18.8	10.9

Source: Statistics Canada, An Overview of Volunteer Workers in Canada, 1978, table 8B. Catalogue 71-530.

TABLE A-21: Percentage distribution of persons who did volunteer work in the reference year, by age, sex and labour force status, Canada, 1980

Age and Sex	Total	Employed	Unemployed	Not in labour force
Total	100.0	61.1	3.2	35.7
15-19 years	100.0	46.3	6.0	47.7
20-24 years	100.0	66.2	-	28.6
15-24 years	**100.0**	**56.1**	**5.4**	**38.4**
25 years & over	100.0	62.0	2.8	35.2
Men	100.0	83.8	2.3	13.9
15-19 years	100.0	47.4	-	46.3
20-24 years	100.0	76.3	-	18.4
15-24 years	100.0	63.2	-	31.1
25 years & over	100.0	87.8	-	10.5
Women	100.0	42.0	3.9	54.1
15-19 years	100.0	45.5	-	48.8
20-24 years	100.0	54.2	-	40.6
15-24 years	100.0	49.3	-	45.2
25 years & over	100.0	40.7	-	55.5

Source: Statistics Canada, An Overview of Volunteer Workers in Canada, 1978, table 9. Catalogue 71-530.

TABLE A-22: Percentage distribution of respondents by position on a scale of 1 to 10 expressing their political leaning, and by age, Canada, June 1982

Position on Scale		Total	18-24 yrs	25 yrs and +
LEFT	1-2-3	5.1	5.8	4.9
	4-5	33.6	36.4	32.7
RIGHT	6-7	24.4	23.6	24.6
	8-9-10	14.2	10.2	15.5
DON'T KNOW		22.8	24.0	22.3
TOTAL		100.0	100.0	100.0

Note: Due to rounding, totals may not add up to 100%.

Source: CARA survey, Gallup, June 1982. Special compilations.

TABLE A-23: Percentage distribution of respondents aged 15-24 by opinion on the direction of our society and by selected characteristics, Canada, May 1983

Opinion	Total	Region					Occupation				Sex		Age	
		Mar.	Que.	Ont.	Prair.	B.-C.	Stud.	Empl.	Unempl.	Not in labour force	Men	Women	15-19	20-24
It is necessary to radically change the basic structure of our society through revolutionary action	6.0	8.4	7.6	4.9	4.9	6.0	7.5	4.0	7.9	6.8	6.4	5.7	7.0	5.2
It is necessary to improve our society little by little through reforms	81.1	77.1	75.2	86.0	86.4	74.1	79.5	82.8	81.1	79.6	80.2	81.9	77.7	83.9
It is necessary to defend our society against the forces of change	8.5	9.6	9.9	7.2	6.8	11.4	8.3	9.1	8.1	7.5	9.6	7.4	10.3	7.0
No opinion/Don't know	4.1	4.9	6.7	1.6	1.9	8.5	4.6	3.5	2.9	5.3	3.5	4.6	4.9	3.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Note: Due to rounding, totals may not add up to 100%

Source: Goldfarb survey, 1983. Unpublished data.

TABLE A-24: Percentage distribution of respondents by opinion on the group most responsible for causing selected problems, and by age and sex, Canada, June 1983

Group	Inflation				Unemployment				Energy Crisis				Labour strikes				Economic disparities between the regions of Canada				Pollution			
	18-24 years		25 yrs & over		18-24 years		25 yrs & over		18-24 years		25 yrs & over		18-24 years		25 yrs & over		18-24 years		25 yrs & over		18-24 years		25 yrs & over	
	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W
Federal government	39	48	37	35	38	33	33	31	42	39	45	38	5	2	4	4	48	41	45	42	13	8	13	14
Provincial government	13	13	6	10	14	25	9	13	9	12	9	8	2	5	3	2	26	30	17	16	5	5	6	5
Large corporations	17	14	14	13	18	14	14	12	26	24	17	18	6	4	8	5	3	6	6	5	69	71	60	55
Small Businesses	2	2	0	0	5	3	1	2	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	4	1	1	3	3	2	2
Labour unions	21	10	27	28	15	10	22	25	0	0	2	2	83	80	76	81	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	0
Consumer groups	0	1	2	2	1	0	2	1	3	4	3	4	0	0	1	0	5	3	2	2	2	3	1	4
All	4	4	10	5	2	4	8	5	3	3	5	4	1	1	4	2	1	1	4	3	5	7	10	8
None	1	1	1	1	3	1	4	2	6	3	10	5	1	0	1	0	3	1	6	4	0	0	2	1
Don't know/No answer	1	6	3	6	4	7	7	9	10	13	9	21	1	6	4	5	8	14	17	27	3	3	6	12
Both governements	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Note: Due to rounding, totals may not add up to 100%.

Source: The Crop Report, 83-4, question 10. Special compilations.

TABLE A-25: Percentage distribution of respondents by opinion on the group that is doing the most to overcome selected problems, and by age and sex, Canada, June 1983

Group	Inflation				Unemployment				Energy crisis				Labour strikes				Economic dis-. parities between the regions of Canada				Pollution			
	18-24 years		25 yrs & over		18-24 years		25 yrs & over		18-24 years		25 yrs & over		18-24 years		25 yrs & over		18-24 years		25 yrs & over		18-24 years		25 yrs & over	
	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W
Federal government	38	24	36	25	32	25	32	25	42	37	28	21	12	12	13	11	41	48	38	29	26	20	24	18
Provincial government	17	22	12	15	25	29	18	20	23	17	13	15	31	22	21	19	30	18	18	16	23	20	21	18
Both governments	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Large corporations	3	3	5	4	7	3	3	2	6	6	7	7	4	7	7	6	5	1	2	2	13	15	11	12
Small Businesses	13	10	11	10	16	14	13	12	3	3	2	2	2	2	5	4	1	4	2	2	5	4	2	2
Labour unions	2	1	2	2	5	7	4	4	0	2	1	0	25	27	18	16	1	1	1	2	1	1	0	0
Consumer groups	11	16	13	15	3	2	4	3	7	6	14	11	5	5	4	5	6	2	5	5	21	16	15	18
All	1	1	3	2	1	0	3	2	2	2	3	3	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	2	1	2	4	3
None	7	9	12	12	9	10	16	14	11	9	18	14	13	8	17	16	6	8	16	13	6	9	14	10
Don't know/No answer	9	14	6	16	3	10	6	17	5	18	14	27	6	16	11	22	8	17	17	30	5	13	8	19

Note: Due to rounding, totals may not add up to 100%.

Source: The Crop Report, 83-4, question 11, Special compilations.

TABLE A-26: Percentage distribution of respondents by assignment of responsibility for the current economic situation in Canada, and by age and sex, Canada, April 1983

Group and Degree of Responsibility	Total		18-24 yrs		25 yrs & over	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Mainly responsible						
Federal government	34	39	43	46	32	39
World conditions	29	28	28	25	29	28
Unions	13	10	8	4	14	11
Provincial governments	4	6	3	8	4	5
Multinationals	6	4	5	4	6	4
United States' policies	6	4	6	2	6	4
Banks	4	3	4	1	4	3
Civil services	2	2	2	4	2	2
Don't know/No answer	3	4	2	5	3	4
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Sharing a fair amount of the responsibility						
Federal government	23	21	24	16	23	22
Provincial governments	15	17	22	25	13	16
World conditions	14	15	14	17	13	15
Unions	13	15	12	14	13	16
Banks	7	5	5	1	7	5
United States' policies	8	7	8	9	8	7
Multinationals	8	7	3	5	9	7
Civil services	5	4	6	4	5	4
Don't know/No answer	6	8	5	8	7	8
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Note: Due to rounding, totals may not add up to 100%.

Source: The Crop Report, 83-3, question 8 and 9, Special compilations.

TABLE A-27: Percentage of respondents aged 15-24 who think that the government is doing an excellent or good job on selected issues. by selected characteristics. Canada. May 1983

Issue	Total	Region					Labour Force Status				Sex		Age	
		Mar.	Que.	Ont.	Prair.	B.C.	Stud.	Empl.	Unempl.	Not in labor force	Men	Women	15-19	20-24
Unemployment	16.5	13.0	20.9	16.2	15.5	11.4	19.0	15.3	14.5	14.7	18.4	14.5	17.1	15.9
Equality for women	28.1	24.4	32.3	27.0	29.3	22.9	32.5	25.1	28.8	24.4	28.7	27.5	29.1	27.2
Inflation/ rising cost of living	20.6	18.1	26.8	19.3	19.6	13.4	24.8	18.1	24.6	12.5	23.8	17.3	22.2	19.1
Nuclear disarmament	17.6	12.4	20.0	17.6	17.7	16.4	17.8	18.4	21.7	10.8	18.6	16.6	19.2	16.2
Rights of English-speaking people in Quebec	26.8	17.8	45.6	23.0	17.6	16.4	28.6	26.3	27.4	22.5	26.8	26.8	26.9	26.7
Pollution/ environmental protection	28.7	25.6	34.9	26.3	31.1	20.4	31.4	27.3	31.3	22.4	29.0	28.3	31.1	26.6
Rights of French-speaking Canadians outside of Quebec	30.9	35.4	24.6	31.5	35.5	32.9	30.1	31.7	31.8	29.6	32.6	29.1	28.5	32.9
Native Rights	28.3	32.5	26.9	30.9	27.0	22.3	32.2	27.7	24.5	22.1	30.6	26.0	29.8	27.1

Source: Goldfarb survey. 1983. Unpublished data.

TABLE A-28: Percentage of respondents who are very satisfied or somewhat satisfied with the governments, by age and sex, Canada, 1983

Age & Sex	Federal Government				Provincial Government			
	April 1983	June 1983	Sept. 1983	Nov. 1983	April 1983	June 1983	Sept. 1983	Nov. 1983
18-24 yrs								
Men	31	30	30	49	48	48	54	55
Women	35	36	37	48	53	54	57	55
25 yrs & +								
Men	28	35	33	35	49	54	50	48
Women	31	34	35	42	45	50	51	53

Source: The Crop Report, 83-3, questions 108 and 111; 83-4, questions 93 and 96; 83-5, questions 120 and 125; 84-1, questions 85 and 88. Special compilations.

APPENDIX 3

Definitions of volunteer groups: sphere of activity
Statistics Canada, 1980

DEFINITIONS OF VOLUNTEER GROUPS: SPHERE OF ACTIVITY

Health:	refers to those agencies involved in providing physical and mental health services directly to the public.
Education:	includes teachers' aides, lunchroom supervisors, etc., and other organizations with an educational intent such as the 4-H or Boy Scouts.
Social/Welfare:	comprises fund-raising agencies, social information/advisory services (i.e. those volunteer agencies which provide information or advice to members of the public who require a particular service but who do not know what services are available nor where to obtain these services), child care, services for the aged, service clubs (i.e. non-sectarian organizations such as the Rotary, IODE, etc. which sponsor charitable projects in the community) and correctional services.
Leisure activity associations:	includes the sports and recreational associations, as well as drama clubs, stamp clubs, historic societies and the like.
Religion:	comprises church congregations, parishes, synagogues, etc. of various religions.
Civic/Community Action:	includes advocacy groups such as Greenpeace or Pollution Probe which specialize in increasing public awareness of current issues, as well as professional associations, unions, etc.

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